



**Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Justice & Accessibility (DEIJA)
Advisory Committee Meeting
Tuesday, June 17, 2025 11:00 AM
Minutes**

Present: Rachel Dworkin (Chemung County Historical Society), Allie Shanafelter (Corning Museum Of Glass), Karin Wikoff (Ithaca College); Jenny Shonk (Finger Lakes Library System); Beth Hylan (Corning Museum of Glass, retired)

ex officio: Christine Brown, Jessica Philippe

Excused: Virgilio Pinto (Ithaca College)

Notes from Last Meeting ([Minutes 4/15/25](#))

Around the Table

Rachel- Lots of outreach and outings during June. They had a booth at a Pride event and a Juneteenth event in Elmira. They have a display that focuses on LGBTQ and they have a local heroes exhibit.

Karin- Shared a rejection letter that a friend's daughter received from an NIH application that said the program was cancelled due to an emphasis on DEI. Attended the No King's event in Ithaca and that was followed by Pride and Juneteenth events. The attendance was huge. Karin is looking forward to hosting a Juneteenth event. Karin's position is being eliminated and she is taking early retirement. She talked with the current IC Director about her DEI initiatives at IC and she's hoping that her work will continue on after her retirement.

Allie- They also celebrated Pride in Corning and they had a booth. Corning Inc. covered the school budget deficit that did not pass. They hosted a class of 6th graders at the library.

Jenny- She is back from NYC and saw so many Pride flags. She can't go to protests due to health issues. Still trying to get their land acknowledgement finished. The IDEA group is still needed to keep the conversation going and process everything that's going on. She opened an Outreach Mini-grant cycle for targeted populations (i.e. at-risk youth, minority groups, people with disabilities, etc.) called Aunt Flow Mini-Grants. They are putting period products in 10 of their libraries. Jenny shared this event in the chat: <https://www.urbanlibraries.org/initiatives/democracy/building-community-trust-through-libraries>

Beth- She is involved with the group [Indivisible](#) and is looking for ways to contribute to their work.

Christine- Attended the No Kings event in Horseheads. Horseheads has Republican representation going really far back, but they still had 400 at the event, which was a nice surprise.

DEIJA Advisory Committee Activities List

- Review of the 2024/2025 list
 - Rachel asked if we were successful in accomplishing these goals which raised a discussion about each item and we did complete things that met each goal.
- **2025/2026 list**
 - We will carry over the current activities which are ongoing and the main activity will be the DEIJA Plan and carrying over things to the POS.

Review of the DEIJA Plan

[DEIJA Plan 2025 \(DRAFT\)](#)

- The plan was reviewed and it needs to be updated. Some things are outdated and we're also developing the next Plan of Service (covering 2026 to 2031) which will address DEIJA topics and will likely require changes to the current DEIJA plan.
- Do we want to include B for belonging in our committee name? There was discussion about this and it was determined that we should not change the name. Each letter of the DEIJA acronym involves action while B is the desired goal of the DEIJA work. Also, the acronym is already long and can be confusing.

DEIJA in the SCRLC News

- Resources for ADA Title 2 changes to Accessibility – May 2
- Binghamton University published its Remediation of Harmful Language Statement – May 30
- Mary-Carol shared our commitment to DEIJA in her message to members and shared that we're in the process of adding an [LGBTQIA+ page to our DEIJA LibGuide](#) – May 30

Upcoming Meetings – every other month, 3rd Tuesdays at 11am

Mark your calendars!

August 19, 11am

October 21, 11am

February 17, 11am

April 21, 11am

June 16, 11am

Minutes taken by Jessica & Christine.