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DELAWARE CENTER FOR THE  
**INLAND BAYS**  
Research. Educate. Restore.

## DEIJA COMMITTEE

Meeting Agenda

DATE: Thursday, December 14, 2023

TIME: 6 - 7:30pm

LOCATION: Delaware Center for the Inland Bays,  
39375 Inlet Road, Rehoboth Beach, DE 19971

Remote via Zoom:

By computer: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87319687759>

By phone: 301-715-8592 Meeting ID: 873 1968 7759 #

Meeting called by: Dr. Marlene Saunders, Chair

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Attendees: Jerry, Bonnie, Christophe, Meghan, Marlene, Ragghi Rain, Marissa, Chris, Lisa, Suechi, Nivette

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Welcome

M. Saunders

- Land Acknowledgement
- White sage blessing

Introductions

A. Fagan

- Anna she/her- been near the water.
- Nivette- proximity
- Christophe he/him- interaction with wildlife
- Meghan- the light
- Bonnie she/her- past tribal council member- the people
- Rain- behind tribe community Center
- Marlene- her family home and ancestry
- Lisa- 13 adult oak trees around her house
- Chris- one big party
- Marissa- DE River view from her apartment
- Jerry- walking in nature near his home
- Sue- boys and girls club- waterbodies in Wyoming, hiking

Group Agreements/Community Agreements/Ground Rules

N. Pérez Pérez

- Important to create a community

Introduction to the Center and Our Work

A. Fagan

DEIJA Practices in Restoration

M. Noe Fellows

- Restoration is to bring something back to its original form- Suechi.
- Restore community engagement across all ages.

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*Break*

DEIJA Committee Purpose

M. Saunders

- Including everyone and giving everyone a voice
- What the Center has done is to turn DEIJA into a default
- Interdependence of the water and land
- DEIJA community is an engine
- Everyone has to make that happen
- The committee will be assessing what we are doing well and what we don't
- Goals:
  - Assess current DEIJ effort in the Center- consultants will help us
  - Drive integration on all aspects of the Center work
  - Lead accountability within the organization
- Stay in communication with the community and learn the personalities of the people
- Relationships are the key to the success of our goals
- Listening sessions will be going into the community
  - There needs to be follow-up
- Oak Orchard flooding risk
  - Trail parks, will this be a community you will be interested in? YES

Small Group Discussions

All

- Interconnectiveness- listening and education
  - Learning about the resources in their disposition
  - Wonders of Nature- bringing it to them
- Environmental Justice- how do we deal with some of these heavy difficult philosophical topics
- Build joy

Open Discussion

All

- Jerry- how engaged we will like the Center board to be?
  - Very involved
  - The more involved the better to engage all assoc. Communities
  - Board acceptance- is important to make us better.
    - Sometimes achieved by listening to a community that is having a problem

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- Possible creation of a DEIJA self-assessment for partner, board, etc.

Next Steps

M. Saunders / A. Fagan

Closing

M. Saunders