

DEI Committee Meeting Agenda

October 20, 2024

[ZOOM LINK HERE!](#)

1. New Business

1. Summer Community Open House 2025 (Eastern Zone wide)

2. Items for Discussion

1. DEI Track at Annual Business Meeting 2024 (see details below)
2. Eastern Zone DEI Goal for 2024-2026

3. Upcoming Meetings

1. November 17 or November 24, 2024 7:00 PM (group discussion)

4. Adjournment

ABM 2024 – DEI Track

Overall Takeaway:

The importance of continuing DEI efforts in today's society cannot be overstated. DEI initiatives promote a culture of belonging, ensuring that all individuals, regardless of their race, gender, sexual orientation, or background, have equal access to opportunities and resources. By fostering diverse perspectives and creating inclusive environments, organizations and communities become more innovative, resilient, and adaptable. Diversity brings a wealth of ideas and experiences, helping to drive progress and strengthen decision-making. Equity and inclusion ensure that every person has the support they need to thrive, eliminating systemic barriers that have historically marginalized certain groups.

Moreover, continuing DEI efforts is crucial in addressing social inequalities and fostering societal harmony. Persistent disparities, especially in our sport, remain, and sustained DEI efforts help bridge these gaps. By promoting understanding and empathy across different cultures and identities, DEI initiatives help reduce prejudice and discrimination. Additionally, embracing diversity is not only morally right but also essential for organizations seeking to remain competitive in a rapidly changing world.

Most Impactful Session: Session 3

Listening to the needs of a community before providing a service is crucial for several reasons:

1. **Relevance** Understanding community needs ensures that services are tailored and relevant, increasing their effectiveness.
2. **Trust and Engagement:** Actively listening fosters trust and encourages community members to engage with the service, leading to better participation and support.
3. **Resource Optimization:** By identifying specific needs, resources can be allocated more efficiently, avoiding waste on unnecessary services.
4. **Sustainability:** Services that reflect the community's priorities are more likely to be embraced and sustained over time.
5. **Empowerment:** Involving the community in the decision-making process empowers them and promotes a sense of ownership over the services provided.

Overall, listening helps create a more responsive, effective, and sustainable service that truly meets the needs of the community