

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair

~Minutes~
March 16, 2019

James Fry
Staff Liaison

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<http://www.ci.moscow.id.us/commissions/Pages/human-rights.aspx>

The meeting was called to order.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Faunce, Becky Tallent, Sandra Kelly, Ari Carter, Meredith Metsker, Steve Simmons, Erin Agidius

MEMBERS ABSENT: Elizabeth Stevens, Jesse Martinez, Jana Argersinger, Bruce Pitman, Rula Awwad-Rafferty.

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Tyson Berrett, Staff Liaison; Anne Zabala, City Council Liaison; Karen Potter, Deputy Clerk

1. Approval of Minutes of February 19, 2019.

Tallent moved to accept the minutes as written, seconded by Kelly and the motion carried.

2. Review of Calendar of Events/Meeting.

The calendar was received and the following events were added:

- Saturday, August 3, Great Moscow Food Bank Drive
- Saturday, Sept. 7, Human Rights Day at the Market
- Sunday, April 7, Kitten Shower, Humane Society
- Blake Little Photography Exhibit Presentation, around March 29th or 30th.
- Monday, March 29, 7:00 p.m., Idaho Self Advocacy Leadership, "Blessings of Liberty," Kenworthy Theatre.

3. HRC Proposal for 2020 Budget.

The Human Rights Commission proposed \$6,000 for the 2019-2020 budget. The Finding the Center Conference was held last year so there will be a smaller Northwest Coalition for Human Rights Conference for the upcoming fiscal year. Agidius moved to accept the budget as presented, seconded by Tallent, and the motion carried.

4. Future Social Justice Forum – Art Show.

An art show with invitations to many local artists was suggested as a future social justice event. The show would run three to four weeks and would allow for on-going participation as a different type of social justice forum. The event would be held at the Third Street Gallery and held after

the Inclusive Communities Week in September. UI Art and Architecture students could be contacted. A theme has yet to be determined. The subcommittee for this event will consist of Kelly, Tallent and Simmons. Tallent moved the Human Rights Commission subcommittee work on the social justice art project, seconded by Simmons and the motion carried.

5. Moscow High School - Carter.

The MHS Human Rights Club is seeking survey questions from the Commission to target future programs for high school students. The Holocaust was presented previously. Carter mentioned possibly hosting a forum like what was done for the book, "Dreamland" to address student concerns. Any specific ideas for survey questions or other suggestions, can be forwarded to Carter by the end of March.

6. Inclusive Communities Month Theme – Mental Health.

There were discussion and ideas for activities for Inclusive Communities Month in September:

- Potluck – last event of the month at possibly a park or somewhere outside.
- Latah Recovery Center for involvements and ideas.
- Disability Action Center.
- UI – Mental Health First Aid.
- School District
- Law Enforcement – and how they deal with individuals with mental health issues.
- UI Suicide Prevention / QPR Training (Question, Persuade and Refer)

Tallent moved the Commission pursue events related to mental health for Inclusive Communities Month, seconded by Simmons and the motion carried.

7. Community Voice / Human Rights Issues.

Moscow High School student, Defne Yuksel, approached the HRC Chair for assistance with a project to collect statements which have affected individuals from the community in regards to human rights. Defne would like to distribute an anonymous survey to Moscow businesses, City Hall and other collection points. Once the surveys are completed, blurbs from completed answers would be put together in an art form for exhibition. A list of sample questions provided by Defne were distributed. These questions may be changed or other questions suggested. This exhibit could be incorporated with Inclusive Communities Month and be displayed at events during the month. Kelly moved that the HRC help with this project to collect community statements on issues in Moscow that have affected individuals in regards to Human Rights. This motion was seconded by Metsker and the motion carried.

REPORTS

1. Latah Human Rights Task Force Update

The theme for the Task Force's Human Rights Day will be mental health. The annual budget was set. The MLK Breakfast was very successful with a profit of \$1,388.54. These monies will go

towards youth education programs. Living Voices may be coming around Indigenous Peoples Day. Their presentation theme will be Native Americans.

2. Food Insecurity / Poverty on the Palouse Update

The general meeting will be held on March 21 at 5:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. The steering committee meeting met and has been discussing a new name for the group. Subcommittees are researching hunger issues nationally and comparing to the Palouse's hunger concerns. The group is continuing to work on the Palouse Tables Project. Their Facebook page is up and running.

3. Social Justice Forum, "Sanctuary. Asylum. Refugees. What's the Difference?"

Approximately 30 people attended this event. The speakers, questions and panel were all very good.

4. Status Pesticides in City Parks and Collaboration with Sustainable Environment Commission.

Costco will no longer be selling Roundup. The City has been using steam to kill weeds along roadways and edges of roadways.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Kenworthy Theatre is seeking to purchase the new stage lift through grants. The Theatre will be closed from the end of November through December. Due to a possible grant acquisition, the Commission will not be partnering with them for funding of this project.

2. Faunce will be sending an email to the City Council and the Mayor requesting a change of status for the Commission's high school seat from a non-voting member to a voting member. Councilmember Zabala will find out more information about how to proceed with this change.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 5:10 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

MAR 16 2019
Karen Potter
Chair/Deputy Signature