

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair

~Minutes~
May 21, 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, Bruce Pitman, Steve Simmons, Erin Agidius, Jesse Martinez, Defne Yuksel

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jana Argersinger, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Elizabeth Stevens,

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: James Fry Jr., Staff Liaison; Anne Zabala, City Council Liaison; Karen Potter, Deputy Clerk

1. Approval of Minutes of April 16, 2019.

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

2. Review of Calendar.

The calendar was reviewed and there were no changes. The following upcoming events were announced:

- The Community Colleges of Spokane will be hosting a Fulbright Scholar from Morocco to talk about Arab World Historical and Cultural Perspectives on Friday, May 24, at 4:30 p.m.
- A Mental Health Walk will be held on Wednesday, May 29, at 4:00 p.m. with the event beginning at the Latah Recovery Center.

REPORTS

1. Latah Human Rights Task Force Report

There was not a Task Force meeting last month; however, there was a Latah Human Rights Task Force Day at the Market meeting. There will be the regular Task Force meeting on June 13 to talk about the food drive and the market. The sign-up sheet for the food drive will be coming out soon.

2. Community Voice / Human Rights Issues

Surveys are printed and will be distributed to City Hall, the Chamber of Commerce, the UI Pitman Center and various businesses. There will be a box at the table at the Market as well. Commissioners will supply some of the boxes to hold surveys. Approximately 20 boxes will be distributed around town.

3. Future Social Justice Forum – Art

The Arts Commission was contacted. It will be approximately one year before an event can be scheduled due to their full calendar. The Human Rights Commission will keep this item on the agenda until then.

4. Moscow High School Survey – Carter

A draft of the survey for Moscow High School students was distributed. There was discussion. Surveys will go to students by the end of this week or early next week. The results will be available in June.

5. Inclusive Communities Month Theme – Mental Health

Preparations are progressing for Inclusive Communities Month. The Latah Recovery Center is providing feedback on possible events and will cosponsor. The Commission is waiting to hear back from some of the other groups regarding events. The community potluck has been scheduled. Currently there are three more events needed.

6. Food Insecurity / Poverty on the Palouse Update

Tables pertaining to food insecurity have been at the Koppel Garden in Pullman. Questions have been asked such as, “Do you know Latah County or Whitman County to be food insecure?” Many people do not know what “food insecurity” means. The Poverty on the Palouse is planning on more outreach. The group will table at the Farmers Market in July and begin applying for grants.

7. Pesticides in the City Parks and Collaboration with Sustainable Environment Commission

There was no update at this time.

8. Kenworthy Theatre Stage Lift

The City Council approved the HRC’s sponsorship of \$500 toward a stage lift for the Kenworthy Performing Arts Centre. Because this lift will be available for City activities, City Administration agreed to allocate this sponsorship on a one-time basis.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Indigenous Peoples Day. Yolanda Bisbee has been contacted. Sidel Samuels who handles Indigenous Peoples Day’s activities for UI will be contacted as well. The UI will host activities in the morning and would like for the Commission to host activities in the afternoon or evening.

2. Racist postcards were recently distributed in Moscow. There were approximately 500 postcards depicting offensive political cartoons. A commission member forwarded the postcards to the Daily News. There was discussion and the following ideas/suggestions were made:

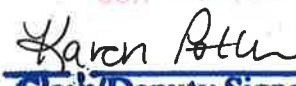
- Tracking incident data to be incorporated into a report.
- Tallent will review the recent Idaho Supreme Court Case.
- The possibility of a proclamation or an announcement denouncing such incidents which occur in the City.
- Statements, events and training to see what the HRC can do.
- Creation and identification of a clear process to address bias incidents including who to report incidents to.

Faunce will talk to City Supervisor Riedner about the City's awareness of such incidents, if these incidents are forwarded to the police, etc.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

JUN 18 2019

Clerk/Deputy Signature