

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair

~Minutes~
March 20, 2018

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, Steve Simmons, Ari Carter, Jana Argersinger, Meredith Metsker, Bruce Pitman, Steve Simmons, Sophia Eck

MEMBERS ABSENT: Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Erin Agidius, Cassie Seubert, Elizabeth Stevens

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: James Fry, Staff Liaison; Jim Boland, City Council Liaison; Karen Potter, Deputy Clerk

GUEST: David Hall, 1334 Wallen Road, Moscow, Idaho 83843

1. Approval of Minutes from February 20, 2018.

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

2. Review of Calendar.

The calendar was reviewed and the following events were added:

- Social Justice in Literature, Wednesday, March 28, 2018, 12-1:00 p.m., UI Library, first floor
- Human Rights Commission at the Market, Saturday, August 18, 2018

3. Latah Human Rights Task Force Report.

The annual meeting of the Task Force will be held this Thursday. There was nothing new to report at this time. A vote was taken by the Commission to co-sponsor the Great Moscow Food Drive with the Task Force. The Commission will provide volunteers and a table for the drive. Tallent moved to co-sponsor the drive. The motion was seconded by Kelly and carried unanimously.

4. Northwest Coalition for Human Rights Report.

An email will be sent to members to see if they want to continue to be part of the Coalition's membership. The Coalition is also working on producing a monthly newsletter. Organizations, who are part of the Coalition, will provide feedback. The newsletter will spotlight one organizations each month and showcase its activities, etc.

5. Finding the Center Report.

Raymond Reyes, Chief Diversity Officer for Gonzaga University, has been asked to be the opening speaker for the conference. The keynote speaker will be Angela Simms who presents workshops pertaining to bringing people together to find common ground. There will be an education workshop by "Unity Works", which trains teachers about diversity in classrooms. It is hoped public school teachers will attend and will receive credit. A local activist and a public servant will also be asked to speak.

6. Moscow Food Co-op Report – Event Collaboration.

The movie “Food Chains” will be shown on Tuesday, April 10. There will be a panel following the movie with David Granatstein, WSU Agricultural Extension, who will be speaking about the importance of migrant farm workers to the farm economy. Victor Canales, from the UI Recruitment Office and a former migrant worker, will be speaking as well. The UI Office of Multicultural Affairs owns this film and is co-sponsoring the event with the Commission. The UI and the Commission will be providing advertising.

7. Education Forum: Health Care Report.

The City Council Chambers were nearly full with attendees for this forum. There were four speakers, and Dan Schmidt moderated. A nationally-recognized “Medicare for All” advocate was skyped in for the meeting.

8. Syringa Mobile Home Park.

Kelly has attended three meetings. Affordable housing is a problem in the area. Each family received a settlement for approximately \$2,000. In addition to the cost of a home, building permits and lots are very expensive in Moscow. An influx of pets are expected at the Humane Society as the move-out deadline approaches.

9. Sojourners Alliance Update.

Crews are working at Sojourners. Former tenants are still being housed at the Hillcrest Motel and the Idaho Inn.

10. Pesticides in City of Moscow Parks and Collaboration with the Sustainability Commission.

Kelly has been meeting with others regarding pesticides in the parks to decide how to distribute information. This item will remain on the agenda.

11. Food Insecurity in Moscow.

At this month’s Food Insecurity meeting, plans were created to develop a food bank in Moscow. Attendees gathered into groups to discuss finances/fundraising, facilities, and distribution. Those involved are working toward a consensus for strategy to develop additional services. There are other issues such as location and accessibility to be considered. The group is also looking at the Meal on Wheels model for providing food. An Idaho Food Bank representative also attended the meeting.

12. HRC at the Market.

A signup sheet will be sent out soon for the Human Rights Commission at the Market table on June 16th. Shifts will begin at 8:00 a.m. until the event ends at 1:00 p.m.

13. Gun Safety Events.

Carter reported the March for Our Lives event, which will be held on Saturday, March 24, will begin at 1:00 p.m. Attendees will march from Friendship Square and walk up Third Street to East City Park for a rally. This march will last about an hour. There will be music at the park. Three high school students will be speaking. Statistics will be provided in regards to politicians who are currently seeking office and their stances on gun issues. Carter would like UI students to lead the march with the high school students. The school superintendent and the school board support the march; however, they will be unable to attend due to training. There will also be a walk out at the high school on April 20th. The elementary school will observe a moment of silence.

14. Announcements/Other Business.

Carter announced high school volunteers will be going to the middle school to talk about gender and equality and South America

Adjournment.

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

APR 17 2018

Clerk/Deputy Signature

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