

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair

~Minutes~
September 18, 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, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Sophia Eck, Elizabeth Stevens

MEMBERS ABSENT: Erin Agidius, Cassie Seubert

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

1. Approval of Minutes of August 21, 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 event was added:

- Orchid Awards, Wednesday, September 19, 2018, 5:30 p.m., 1912 Building

3. Latah Human Rights Task Force Report.

The Task Force had a successful Day at the Market. Art and Essay prompts for the Martin Luther King Breakfast have been created. The theme for MLK day is wealth and inequality. Living Voices will be coming to the middle school and to Troy.

4. Northwest Coalition for Human Rights Report.

The Coalition's new website has had traffic. The Facebook page has been followed and has many "likes." The member list and email list have changed. The Coalition is working to increase memberships and hoping more organizations will join.

5. Finding the Center Report.

Planning is complete with three great speakers and workshop leaders scheduled for the conference. The cost to attend is \$20 for the day which includes all meals and sessions. Lunch will be catered by the Kitchen Counter, and Maialina will cater dinner. The keynote speaker will be Angela Simms. The schedule is available on the Coalition website and the program begins at 9:00 a.m. College and high school students may attend for free.

6. Pride Festival Report – Faunce.

There were many booths at the Pride Festival and many attendees stopped by the Human Rights Commission's booth.

7. Syringa Mobile Home Park Report.

One family is left at Syringa Mobile Home Park. Most all others have found different housing. It was reported that ten individuals are living in cars. The Fair Housing Commissioners are researching safe places to park cars for those who are residing in vehicles. The Pullman City Council is discussing opening the gymnasium at their new building (a church they have purchased) as an emergency warming shelter. If they do, they will hopefully partner with Sojourner's, who has cots that were purchased with a grant. The UUC basement opened as a warming shelter two year ago but the program was moved to Sojourner's.

8. Portable Stage Lift for the Kenworthy Theatre.

A dance, which is to serve as a fundraiser for the portable stage lift, has been postponed due to the large amount of fall events taking place in the community. Another date will be selected for spring.

9. Pesticides in the City of Moscow Parks – Kelly.

No updates.

10. Food Insecurity in Moscow Report.

No updates.

11. Indigenous Peoples' Day Events.

Faunce met with Yolanda Bisbee. The HRC is coordinating with UI for activities. UI will be holding events in the morning and the Commission will host events in the afternoon. Possible presentations/performances include storytellers from various tribes telling tribal creation stories. There may be a drumming circle. The City of Pullman and WSU are also seeking to proclaim Indigenous Peoples' Day. Faunce will talk to Mayor Lambert about issuing a proclamation in honor of this day.

12. Racial Equality and Inclusive Community Month Report and Discussion.

There was discussion regarding compilation of community resources for online use and/or in hard copy form. Attendees with information about available resources should send it to Tallent who will compile and also make a FAQ sheet. These items will be made available to those who are in need of housing, food, etc. assistance. The community potluck has been cancelled for September 24th. There was discussion. A new date will be decided at a future meeting.

13. Human Rights and Opioids – Book Reading Event, "Dreamland."

This event will be rescheduled for November 8th, pending available readers.

14. Medicaid Expansion Discussion.

Faunce will see that the Medicaid Expansion issue is added to the City's Administrative Committee agenda. An HRC commissioner and expert will attend the meeting. The forum has been moved to the University of Idaho for mid-October. The title of the forum will be, "Why is Healthcare Always about the Money: Medicaid Expansion and Other Solutions." Information will be provided to students. There was discussion regarding campus organizations which might assist with the event. Dan Schmidt will be moderating the forum and there will be ample time for students to ask questions. Awwad-Rafferty moved that the

Commission sponsor the forum on access to healthcare/Medicaid Expansion in conjunction with other co-sponsors at UI. Simmons seconded the motion and the motion carried.

15. Announcements/Other Business.

- a. Kelly met with Carly Lilly on choosing the artist and a mural for the ACLU project slated for the north side of the Moscow Hotel. This will be on the agenda for next month. The Commission can sponsor events but cannot donate funds. Faunce will investigate if there is anything the Commission can do to support this project.
- b. The A&E movie, entitled, "No Greater Law" regarding faith healing laws, will be released soon.
- c. Denise Bennet's film, "Gotts Point," about Steve Nelson in Boise will be released soon. Bennett would like for the movie to be shown before the legislative session takes place to help with the adoption of hate crime legislation.

ADJOURNMENT.

The meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

OCT 16 2018

Chair/Deputy Signature