

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair

~Minutes~
November 17, 2020

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 at 4:02 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ken Faunce, Becky Tallent, Jana Argersinger, Erin Agidius, Becky MillerMacPhee, David Pittsley, Courtney LaFranchi; Elizabeth Stevens, Steve Simmons, *(Note: Some Commission members attended by Zoom)*

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jesse Martinez, Defne Yuksel, Rula Awwad-Rafferty

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Chief James Fry Jr.; Staff Liaison; Maureen Laflin, City Council Liaison; Karen Potter, Deputy Clerk

1. Approval of Minutes of October 20, 2020.

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

2. Review of Calendar of Events/Meetings

The calendar was reviewed and the following addition was made:

- Climate Mitigation Strategies Virtual Event, January, date and time to be determined

3. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

REPORTS

1. Commission Terms Update

Terms for Faunce, Tallent and Pittsley will expire on December 31, 2020. To renew terms, Commissioners should email Mayor Lambert with a cc to the deputy clerk. Tallent will be retiring from the Commission after this year.

2. Latah Human Rights Task Force Update

Planning continues for the MLK Virtual Breakfast. The task force is accepting suggestions for guest speakers. The theme is "Wellness and Health as a Human Right." Suggestions are being accepted for guest speakers. Prompts have been finalized for the Art and Essay contest to be held

in the spring. The Wellness Project is available online and can be forwarded to any groups who are interested in using it. A virtual Living Voices presentation is planned for January or early February. Information regarding nominations for the Rosa Park Award will go out next week.

3. Gender Neutral Bathrooms

The City Council has agreed to move forward on this topic. Research has been completed and a proposal is being created regarding which bathrooms should be converted first, costs, etc. The City Council fully supports new bathrooms to be gender neutral. The council is looking at labeling and signs for the outside of the restrooms.

4. Strengthening Relationships with Police & Community

The racial bias forum went well. Attendees asked questions and it was a good opportunity to get community conversations started. A second panel will be held on December 8th dealing with mental health.

Future ideas included:

- An additional panel to answer those questions not covered during first race panel due to time constraints (or just providing questions and answers to those interested).
- LGBTQ issues.
- Sharlisa Davis is preparing a panel on the courts and mental health with Judge Judge and Bill Thompson.

Fry suggested holding a panel every other month as opposed to monthly. The topic of other panels / events will be on the December agenda with the possibility of a new event to be held in February.

5. Bias Reporting System

Laflin and Faunce met with City Attorney Batista. It was suggested the City model a Bias Reporting System after UI's Bias Response Team and eventually move from the city-wide to county-wide. UI's team is a very broad group. The team would have different representatives from different groups such as the University of Idaho, City of Moscow, Moscow Police Department and the Latah County Commissioners. Bautista's concerns included fraudulent reporting and the City's liability with these types of reports as well as making more work for City employees. The Commission could also be a member of the team and vet the reports and include different representatives from the City. Faunce will meet with Bisbee and get a system set up for the City like the one at UI and will again meet with the City attorney.

6. Voices of Moscow

Yuksel has located someone to create a video. She will have more information at a future meeting.

7. Native Playwright Panel.

This was a very good event. The link has been recorded and a password is needed for access. Faunce can provide the link and password for those who are interested in viewing it.

8. Future Social Justice Forums and Events.

LaFranchi, Laflin and Argersinger have been in contact regarding restorative justice as a future social justice forum.

9. Food Insecurity / Poverty on the Palouse Update

The group has not met. Inland Oasis's food bank is up and running and the other food bank is expanding. Food drives are going on around the community.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Climate Action Working Group

Stevens is a member of the Climate Action Working group and asked for monetary support from the Commission for the Climate Mitigation Strategies Virtual event. This item will be added to the December agenda.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:40 p.m.

Ken Faunce, Chair

Moscow Human Rights Commission

Planning Calendar

Sat., Jan 16, 2021, 9:00 am	MLK Human Rights Breakfast-Virtual
Tues., Jan 19, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Mon., Jan 21, 2021, 6:00pm	WSU MLK Keynote Bree Newsome Bass
Tues., Feb 16, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Mar 16, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Apr 20, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., May 18, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Mon., Mar 29, 2021 6:00 pm	WSU MLK Keynote Ijeoma Oluo
Tues., Jun 15, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Jul 20, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Aug 17, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room