

# HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce  
Commission Chair  
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## Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

James Fry  
Staff Liaison  
208-883-7064

<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/450/Human-Rights-Commission>

Tuesday,  
April 20, 2021

4:00 PM

City Council Chambers  
206 E. 3rd St.

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Ken Faunce, Jana Argersinger (virtual), Elizabeth Stevens (virtual), Erin Agidius (virtual), Bekah Miller-MacPhee (virtual), Steve Simmons (virtual), Rula Awwad-Rafferty (virtual), David Pittsley (virtual), Erin Agidius (virtual), Elizabeth Stevens (virtual)

ABSENT: Defne Yuksel, Courtney LaFranchi, Jesse Martinez, Julia Davis

STAFF: James Fry Jr., Staff Liaison; Maureen Laflin, Council Liaison; Karen Potter, Deputy Clerk

## REGULAR AGENDA

### 1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for February 16, 2021 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Approve minutes as presented; approve minutes with amendments; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Argersinger moved and Miller-MacPhee seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

### 2. Review of Calendar (ACTION ITEM)

Review upcoming meetings and events.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Add/edit items to the calendar; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

The following change was made to the calendar: Restorative Justice Forum II – This forum will be held possibly in the fall instead of late April.

### 3. Public Comment and Response to Previous Comments (limited to 10 minutes)

Members of the public may speak to the Commission regarding matters NOT on the agenda or currently pending before the Commission. Please state your name and city of residence for the record and limit your remarks to three (3) minutes.

None offered.

## REPORTS

### 1. Latah Human Rights Task Force Report.

This is the last week for Art and Essay contest submittals. Judging will be held on Friday, April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mayor Lambert will present the awards on May 1st at the 1912 Center. The library will provide a display for the winners. The task force has been discussing hosting a film on anti-Semitism. "Shared Legacies" is about Jews participating with Blacks in the civil rights movement. It would include a community discussion after the film. The Human Rights Commission unofficially supports this film and will vote at the next meeting on whether to provide monetary support as well. The Commission will also sponsor the Great Moscow Food Drive again this year. The task force will host another drive-by food drive. Fifty percent of proceeds will be given to the Westside Food Bank and the rest to the Moscow Food Bank.

## **2. Climate Action Working Group.**

Tina Hilding and Jeff Hicke of the Climate Action Working Group provided a report on how climate change will impact Moscow. This group is a subcommittee of the Sustainable Environment Commission. Hilding provided an overview and history while Hicke shared a climate change impact assessment for Moscow. Proposed goals and actions were also provided. Hilding and Hicke invited ideas and input from the Commission to develop a climate mitigation strategy for Moscow. Hilding and Hicke are presenting to all of the City of Moscow Commissions. There was discussion and questions. The City Council will host a workshop on climate change on Monday, April 26.

## **3. Strengthening Relationships with Police and Community Forum.**

The Forum went well. There were major technical difficulties with Sheriff Skiles's connection. Almost all of the questions were addressed. Fifty-nine were in attendance. Another forum will be held in the future.

## **4. Restorative Justice Forums.**

There were 58 attendees at the first forum. Laflin suggested for future forums that every presenter be in place 30 minutes in advance so any technical difficulties may be addressed before the meeting begins. This panel was very diverse. The next forum may not be open to the community and may not be so much about education but rather action and problem solving and using a technique to address controversial issues such as racism.

## **5. Bias Reporting System.**

Faunce and Laflin met City Attorney Mia Bautista. After investigation, Bautista found that the City already has a bias reporting system in place that is currently not being utilized. Individuals who are reporting concerns would call the police department on the non-emergency number (882-COPS) and the call will be already coded in the system. If a crime has been committed, the police will be contacted immediately. If it is not a crime, the report will be forwarded to Bautista who will personally call individuals to follow-up and let them know they have been heard. A quarterly (and possibly monthly) report will be generated and forwarded to the Commission to examine trends, programming, etc. Individuals reporting incidents may do so anonymously but should be encouraged to come forward so follow-up may be done. Names will not be shown in the newspaper's daily police log—only general location. However, public records requests will have names. Bautista will put out the word to the police department, dispatchers, and the City that the system exists and will advertise it once it is completely ready.

## **6. Voices of Moscow.**

There was no report.

## **7. Food Insecurity / Poverty on the Palouse.**

The group has not meet. The Westside Food Bank will have a grand opening on May 2<sup>nd</sup> and still needs donations.

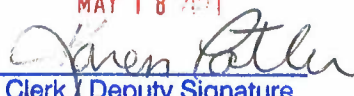
## **ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

**Minutes Approved On**

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Ken Faunce, Chair

MAY 18 2021  
  
Clerk / Deputy Signature