

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair
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Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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

**Tuesday,
May 18, 2021**

4:00 PM

**City Council Chambers
206 E. 3rd St.**

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 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), Jesse Martinez (virtual), Julia Davis

ABSENT: Defne Yuksel, Courtney LaFranchi, Elizabeth Stevens, Erin Agidius

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

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for April 20, 2021 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

There was one correction to the minutes: the starting time of the meeting was changed from 5:35 p.m. to 4:04 p.m.

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

One addition was made to the calendar:

- January 15, 2022, MLK Breakfast

3. Co-Sponsorship of film "Shared Legacies." (ACTION ITEM)

Latah County Human Rights Task Force and the Inter-Faith Alliance has asked the Human Rights Commission to co-sponsor the film "Shared Legacies" which is about anti-Semitism.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to co-sponsor film "Shared Legacies" or provide staff further direction.

Myron Shreck, contact person for the movie, would like to postpone its showing until fall due to a family health emergency. It may be possible to have an in-person showing as well as live streaming at this future time. The date will be finalized at a later time.

Awaad-Rafferty moved to co-sponsor the movie “Shared Legacies” with the Interfaith Association and Latah County Human Rights Task Force (as well any others who wish to co-sponsor) up to \$500.00. Argersinger seconded. Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

4. 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.

The presentation for the Art and Essay contest award winners was held in person on May 1st at the 1912 Center. Forty-nine people attended. There were nine individual awards and one class award. All winners’ submissions are on display at the library. The task force will be at the Farmer’s Market on July 31st and the drive-by food drive will be held at East City Park. Volunteers are needed to help at the market table and to help publicize this event. The task force is working with UI on potential MLK Breakfast speakers and 2022 Art and Essay Contest topics. The theme of the breakfast will be the “right to education.”

2. Inclusive Communities Month.

Inclusive Communities Month will be held in September. The theme of “In This Together” was suggested to open up creative possibilities and approach this topic from different angles. Some suggestions included:

- Education – to tie in with the MLK Breakfast’s theme
- Equality
- Inclusion
- Impact of COVID on low income and communities of color
- Anti-Asian violence
- Anti-Semitism
- Restorative practices
- Healing/workshop for community members to help deal with hate and stress encountered in the last year.
- Food security issues – co-sponsor with Moscow Food Co-op

There may be an Inclusive Communities Potluck at the end of the month as well.

3. Bias Reporting System.

Faunce provided an overview of the bias reporting process:

- Incident is reported by using the police department’s non-emergency phone number
- Bias report codes, which are already in place, are assigned.
- City Attorney Bautista receives the report of the incident.
- If it is a crime, it will be forwarded to the police. If it is not a crime, Bautista will follow up.
- Bautista will issue a quarterly report for Commission review.

When an incident is reported in the newspaper's Police Daily Log, there are no names and only general location information. If a public records request under the Freedom of Information Act is submitted, names and addresses of the reporting party will be shown on the report. Pullman Police Department and other police departments have used this type of system.

Reports may be anonymous; however, this will not allow for follow-up. Information will be used for statistical purposes and to become aware of what the issues are. When the system is finalized, it will be publicized through a press release, the City's Facebook page, and word of mouth.

Training will be provided by the Commission to the community. Dispatchers will be trained on attaining appropriate information from reporting parties. Chief Fry said reports of bias in regard to race, gender, etc. will be reviewed to see if it has elements that meet criminal activity per the Idaho Code. If it does, then a person can be charged criminally. Bautista will be asked to attend a Commission meeting to talk about the system.

4. HRC at the Market.

The HRC has signed up for Saturday tabling events at the market on May 29, June 26, and August 21. Volunteers are needed for these events.

5. Voices of Moscow.

There was no report.

6. Community Garden Ideas.

The Hamilton-Lowe community garden is full with a waiting list. The Commission would like to find more gardening plots and get more people involved in training and gardening. Debbie Kadlec is interested and available to consult or be a partner in helping to find a place to expand the garden and find more plots, etc.

7. Food Insecurity.

The Westside Food Bank had a grand opening and is still in need of food and volunteers. Interested individuals can sign up on their website. They will be having a rummage sale soon. The weekend Food for Kids' program will be starting up again and will provide weekend lunches for children.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The June Human Rights Commission Meeting may be held in person, rather than Zoom. There was a request for the meetings to continue using Zoom so Commissioners have the option of attending meetings when travelling. Staff liaison will check with Administration and get back to Commissioners.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:06 p.m.

Ken Faunce, Chair

Moscow Human Rights Commission

Planning Calendar

Sat., Jul 31, 2021 8:00-2:00	Great Moscow Food Drive Various Locations
Tues., Aug 17, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Sat., Aug 21, 2021 8:00-2:00	HRC at the Market
September, 2021 TBD	Inclusive Communities Month Activities
Tues., Sep 21, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Mon., Oct 11, 2021	Indigenous People's Day
Tues., Oct 19, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Nov 16, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Dec 21, 2021, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Sat., Jan 15 th , 2022, 9:00 am	MLK Jr. Human Rights Breakfast, Moscow Middle School
Tues., Jan 18, 2022, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Feb 15, 2022, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Mar 15, 2022, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Apr 19, 2022, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., May 17, 2022, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall: 1 st Floor Conference Room