

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Ken Faunce
Commission Chair
hrc@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

James Fry
Staff Liaison
208-883-7064

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

**Tuesday,
July 20, 2021**

4:00 PM

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

PRESENT: Ken Faunce, Jana Argersinger, Erin Agidius, Steve Simmons, David Pittsley, Julia Davis
ABSENT: Defne Yuksel, Courtney LaFranchi, Elizabeth Stevens, Bekah Miller-MacPhee, Jesse Martinez
Rula Awwad-Rafferty
STAFF: Roger Lanier, Staff Liaison; Maureen Laflin, Council Liaison; Karen Potter, Deputy Clerk

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for May 18, 2021 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Simmons moved and Argersinger seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes: Six. 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.

Additions to the calendar included:

- July 22, "ADA-31" Anniversary of the ADA, BBQ, Mountain View Park, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- September 30, Movie, "Shared Legacies," Kenworthy Theatre.

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.

The Great Moscow Food Drive will be held on July 31st. A table will be set up at the Farmers Market and drive by donations may be made at East City Park. The theme of the MLK Breakfast will be education and human rights. The task force is currently seeking speakers. The breakfast will be held in the middle school multipurpose room as in previous years before the COVID situation

2. Bias Reporting System

Faunce has prepared a flyer which will include information about what is a bias and what is a hate crime. Every bias report will be investigated including anonymous reports. City Attorney Bautista will personally call individuals who report a bias incident to let them know they are heard.

3. Inclusive Communities Month

Activities for Inclusive Communities Month were discussed and included:

- The movie, “Shared Legacies” will be shown on September 30. There will be a brief panel with presentations after the film. The film looks at the history of the civil rights movement of the Jews and Blacks and how they worked together in the past with an urgent call to action for the future. This will be a live, evening event at the Kenworthy. It will also be screened as a live webinar. Both require tickets and are free to the public.
- A restorative justice event may part of Inclusive Communities Month.
- A presentation on the impact of COVID on low income and communities of color. Leontina Hormel has done research on this subject.
- A Community Potluck held at the 1912 Center at the beginning of the Inclusive Communities Month.

4. Police Drug Sniffing Dog Discussion

Council member Zabala relayed concerns to the Commission on whether or not a drug dog is a human rights issue. There were 93,000 overdose deaths last year in the United States. There was also concern that a drug enforcement dog might target minorities and low-income individuals as well as concern about humane dog training methods. Lanier addressed these issues and provided information about current drug trends, dog acquisition and training, and police methods for utilizing a dog. The goal of using a dog is to break to the chain of the supply level to the community and to the user.

5. Voices of Moscow

Yuksel has graduated and will be vacating the high school seat in September. The Voices of Moscow video will be sent to the City Council and Mayor for viewing and direction on how they want to distribute it.

6. Indigenous People’s Day

This year’s event will be held in Friendship Square. Faunce is working with Inland Oasis. Miss Idaho Drag Queen is indigenous and would like to come to the Indigenous People’s Day event. There may possibly be drummers as in previous years.

7. HRC at the Market

There is one more HRC Day at the Market: August 21, 8:00 a.m. – Noon. The table will be set up and Faunce will be attending.

8. Food Insecurity

The Poverty on the Palouse has not met again since COVID. The Westside Food Bank is open seven days a week when volunteers are available. More volunteers are needed for two-hour shifts. The Weekend Food for Kids program has been giving out 160 bags of food a week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. The Sheikh Award ceremony will be held in November. The exact date will be determined after the Sheikh family has been contacted. This item will be on next month's agenda.

2. Argersinger would like the topic of a community garden to be retained for the future growing seasons. Debbie Kadlec would be willing to help with this effort.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:13 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

Ken Faunce, Chair

AUG 17 2021

Karen Bolte
Clerk / Deputy Signature