

FAIR & AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMISSION



Randy Baukol
Commission Chair
FAHC@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

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<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/358/Fair-Affordable-Housing-Commission>

**Thursday
December 1, 2022**

5:15 PM

**Haddock Building
504 S Washington Street**

The meeting was called to order at 5:26 PM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Randy Baukol, Chair; Jo Ellen Force, Casey Holcomb-Hawkes, Ellen Peterson, Eija Sumner
MEMBERS ABSENT: Carson Ellis, Lisa Meyer, Olivia Moses, Linda Pike
OTHERS: Julia Parker
STAFF: Aimee Hennrich

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of September 29, 2022 Minutes (ACTION ITEM)

Presentation of minutes for approval.

Peterson moved for approval of the minutes as written, seconded by Holcomb-Hawkes. Roll Call Vote: Ayes: Unanimous. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

2. Public Comment

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.

3. Analysis of Impediments Action Plan (ACTION ITEM)

Baukol opened the discussion with a review of the previous Action Plan and what ideas the Commissioners had for new items to add. Staff distributed the 2019 Action Item Report and Addendum. The Commissioners reviewed each item and discussed what some next steps could be, as well as the actions taken since 2019.

The Commission talked about possibly making amendments to the zoning code to further promote affordable housing. It was mentioned that they could advocate at the state level for a tax exemption increase. Staff suggested that if the Commission felt strongly about state regulations that the next step would be to make a formal recommendation to City Council. The Commission will work on actions items to present to Council at the time of their annual report in April, 2023.

Parker suggested that the Community Development Director, Cody Riddle, could come speak to the Commission about the limited reach municipalities have due to state resources and regulations. Staff will coordinate a time for Riddle to speak at an upcoming meeting.

The Commission continued with a discussion about some of the previous trainings, as well as upcoming topics. Holcomb-Hawkes suggested a training focusing on increasing their knowledge of the seven protected classes. It was brought up that a lot of comments from the recent survey had to do with pets. Fair Housing laws allow for reasonable accommodation requests for emotional support animals, and that there is a distinction between these animals and pets.

The Commissioners reviewed the Fair Housing Complaint Data. Staff informed the Commissioners that a request was made to the Intermountain Fair Housing Council (IFHC) for 2022 data in hopes of creating a baseline for future years' data, as a way to measure violations of the Fair Housing Act within the City of Moscow. It is hoped that this data would help the Commission focus on areas of educational need for stakeholders in the community.

The Commission continued to converse about methods for community outreach and what practices could be improved upon. Some of the topics mentioned were website visibility, increasing the sharing of resources, and providing more training opportunities. There was a conversation about adding a FAQ section to the City's FAHC webpage.

REPORTS

Staff reported that the Palouse Regional Housing Leadership has been dissolved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

The next regular meeting of the Fair & Affordable Housing Commission is scheduled for January 5th, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 6:45 PM


Randy Baukol, Chair