

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,
July 18, 2023**

4:00 PM

**Mayor's Conference Room
206 E. 3rd St.**

The meeting was called to order at 4:01 p.m.

PRESENT: Ken Faunce, Erin Agidius, Nick Smiley-Kallas, Jana Argersinger, Ducati Schiff, Tara Roberts, Lysa Salisbury, Elijah Jones, Elizabeth Stevens

ABSENT: Lilly Hume, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Kristin Haltinner, Morgan Chaffee,

STAFF: James Fry Jr. (staff liaison), Crista VanOvermeer (deputy clerk), Drew Davis (City Council Liaison)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for June 20, 2023 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

There were no changes to the minutes.

Agidius moved and Stevens seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes: Nine. 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.

Updates were made to the event calendar.

3. Partner with the Black Research Institute for Flourishing and Thriving (BRIFT) (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to partner with BRIFT; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

Other partners of this organization include the Latah Historical Society, Kenworthy Theatre, and UI Black History Research and Black Student Union.

Agidius moved and Argersinger seconded to partner with BRIFT. Vote: Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

4. Partner with a Coalition of Sponsors to bring the “Pro-Voice Project” in Moscow (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to partner with other sponsors of the Pro-Voice Project; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

There was discussion regarding this sponsorship. An event is tentatively planned for October 15th but will conflict with UI Homecoming. The organizer will be contacted and asked to change the date. The event will be held at the Kenworthy Theatre and sponsorship will be used to pay for this space. There will be a zoom call in the future for interested parties to help with the event.

Stevens moved to support the project and donate \$500.00 towards the event and Agidius seconded. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The motion carried.

5. City Commission Questions (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote on survey questions for submittal to the City Commission Survey; or take such other action deemed appropriate

There was discussion regarding survey questions from previous years.

Stevens moved to submit two questions from the 2008 survey as well as an additional question (listed below).

1. What is the best way to provide you information on the Human rights Commission events and activities?
Newspaper
Radio
Flyers/Posters
Television
Email
Webpage
2. To what degree do you feel the following Human Rights issues are present in the community:
Race / Ethnicity
Gender
Sexual orientation
Religion
Wealth or social class
Political beliefs

3. I am aware of the Moscow Human Rights Commission mission and activities.
- Strongly agree
 - Agree
 - Neutral
 - Disagree
 - Strongly Disagree
 - Don't Know

Salsbury seconded the motion. Ayes: Nine. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. The motion carried.

6. 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 – Joann Muneta

Work on the Great Moscow Food drive continues. The theme for the MLK Essay Contest is “Freedom of Expression” which celebrates libraries. Questions for the essay will be presented to teachers in the area.

2. HRC at the Market

There were some visitors at the table. Muneta spoke with Amanda Argonne (Farmers Market) about placing chairs near the music for those who cannot stand for long periods of time.

3. Collaboration with Girl Scout Troop on Human Rights Activities

There was no report.

4. Pride Festival / March

Volunteers are needed for the HRC table at the festival. The march, led by Faunce, will begin at the post office and end at East City Park. Marchers and band members will need to stay on the sidewalk and off the street and private yards. A permit has been applied for.

5. Inclusive Community Month

- “What are Human Rights” Forum
- Restorative Justice Forum
- Kenworthy Movie – provided by the Moscow Film Society and will have a “belonging theme.”

6. Moscow High School Human Rights Conference

The MHS Human Rights Conference is on hiatus. The high school's Human Rights Club is transitioning and may merge with the Environmental Club. Jones has graduated and will be attending college out of state. He has asked to be removed from the roster.

7. Renaming Indian Hills Park

There was no report.

8. Reproductive Rights and Human Rights

The topic of reproductive rights was included in Regular Agenda Item #4 above.

9. Mental Health Crisis Team

Currently waiting on the State to see the outcome of a Mental Health Crisis Team. Fry explained that Health & Welfare used to have a person in place who attended briefings at the police department but that is no longer the case. The State performs evaluations on mental crisis holds at Gritman Medical Center and decides if an individual can be released or they need inpatient care at a state hospital. That is the end of the State's involvement. Doug Olps, who will be employed by CHAS, may be willing to attend police department briefings and become more involved. Stevens asked if the City could employ a Mental Health Social Worker to bridge the current gap. The Mayor, City Supervisor and City Council would need to be part of that conversation. Davis will approach the issue / idea of a private city social worker at the next City Council meeting.

10. Event Publicity

Roberts will send out the publicity for upcoming events.

11. Report on Hate Incidents/Moscow as an Inclusive Community

Faunce mentioned that out-of-town visitors at the HRC table at Farmers Market applauded our City's inclusiveness.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:58 p.m.

Ken Faunce, Chairperson

Moscow Human Rights Commission

Planning Calendar

Sat., Aug 26, 2023, 11:30-12:00	Pride March, Start on 4 th and Jefferson
Sat., Aug 26, 2023, 12:00-4:00	Palouse Pride, East City Park
Tue., Sep, 12 2023, 7:00 pm	“What are Human Rights” LeCompte Auditorium 1912 Center
Wed., Sep 20, 2023, 7:00 pm	Restorative Justice LeCompte Auditorium 1912 Center
Tues., Sep 19, 2023, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1 st Floor Conference Room
Sat., Oct 7, 2023, 8:00-12:00	HRC at the Market, Farmer’s Market
Mon., Oct 9, 2023	Indigenous Peoples Day
Sun., Oct 15. 2023 6:00 pm	Pro-voice Project Stage Presentation, Kenworthy
Tues., Oct 17, 2023, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Nov21, 2023, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Dec 19, 2023, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1 st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Jan, 16, 2023, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1 st Floor Conference Room
Jan, 2023 9:00 am	MLK Jr. Breakfast