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, September 18, 2023	**4:00 PM**	**Mayor's Conference Room 206 E. 3rd St.**

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

PRESENT: Ken Faunce, Erin Agidius, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Jana Argersinger, Lysa Salsbury, Lilly Hume
ABSENT: Kristin Haltinner, Nick Smiley-Kallas, Ducati Schiff, Tara Roberts, Elizabeth Stevens
STAFF: James Fry Jr. (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Sandra Kelly (City Council Liaison)
GUEST: Alan Rose (Latah County Human Rights Task Force)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. **Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for August 15, 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 Awaad-Rafferty seconded to approve the minutes as presented. Vote: Ayes: Five. 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. **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

Human Rights Day at the Market will be held on September 23. The theme for the table will be "Celebrating Libraries." The task force is sponsoring the Pro-Voice project. They will also be working with Haltinner's University of Idaho Race and Ethnicity Class.

2. Letter to Palouse Mall with Latah County Human Rights Task Force – Alan Rose

Alan Rose, representing the task force, spoke about the letter to the Palouse Mall which was sent previously by email to commissioners previously. Currently, there is only one door to the mall which is handicapped accessible. The mall will be asked to install disability access doors on three entrances. There was discussion regarding proposed changes to the letter such as the benefits of providing handicap access, mentioning ways to support, etc.

3. Pride Festival / March

The festival and march were very successful. The march had a large attendance and some participants joined in as the group marched through downtown.

4. Inclusive Community Month

a. Restorative Justice Forum

This forum will be held on September 20th at the 1912 Center at 7:00 p.m. Erin Tomlin from the UI Law School will help with the event.

b. Kenworthy Movie

The movie, "Too Wong Foo," had an attendance of 118 people on September 5.

5. Sheikh Award

The Sheikh Award will be held on November 16, at 7:00 p.m. at the 1912 Center's Reception Gallery. Nominations are due Friday, October 6, and will be circulated by email. A vote will be taken at the meeting on October 17. The press release calling for nominations will be forwarded to the commissioners by email.

6. Renaming Indian Hills Park

There was no report. Haltinner's class is working on this project.

7. Pro-Voice Project

Peacekeeper training will be held at the Unitarian Church, on Sunday, October 15, from 2:00-5:00 p.m. More information is to come regarding this event.

8. Indigenous People's Day

A movie, "Rumble: Indians Who Rocked the World" will be held on October 9, at 7:00 p.m. at the Kenworthy to celebrate Indigenous People's Day. The Kenworthy will create a poster.

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

Bev Bafus, Café Artista, reported political and white supremist flags were displayed at the Palouse Mall. If incidents occur on the mall property (which is private) they may or may not be trespassed due to the discretion of the mall owner. However, if they are on the City's right away on the edge of the mall, the City may trespass in this case.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

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Ken Faunce, Chairperson

Mr. J. Bendickson
Property Manager Palouse Mall Moscow
Jameson Commercial Property Management
1311 E. Welden Dr.
Spokane
WA. 99223

September 17,2023

Mr. Bendickson,

We write to you regarding disability access at the Moscow Palouse Mall. Moscow is justifiably known as a kind and open-hearted community, and we believe improving access to our citizens with disabilities would be a welcome improvement in their lives.

There are 5 entrances to the mall. (Excluding Rite Aid which is not really part of the mall)
1 at Joannes
2 at Old Navy
3 at Ross
4 at Target (next to Clip Hair)
5 at the new Target

Joanne's entrance has two sets of doors. You enter first through doors which have no disability access (DA) on entry, but do have an access button on leaving. The second set of doors have both enter and exit access buttons. It may be that the DA system on these doors just needs repairing.

The second entrance doors are at Old Navy. They have no DA.

The third entrance doors at Ross have no DA.

The fourth entrance doors are next to Clip Hair and have a Target sign above them. They have no DA.

The fifth set of entrance doors are at the new Target, and they have automatic door openings, but they do not give direct access to the mall

Of the 5 entrance doors, three offer no disability access.

It appears that the current situation at the Mall is legally permissible, but that does not, in our opinion, justify this approach. This situation makes it difficult and often impossible for senior citizens, people in wheelchairs or using walkers, canes, castes and even parents with children in strollers and carriages to have reasonable access to the mall and enjoy the same rights as everyone else. In this sense, it is a human rights issue and one on which we, as human rights groups, are directly concerned. The Mall is a public space even if it is privately owned. We strongly request that the Mall's owners Install disability access doors on the three entrances which do not presently have them.

Respectfully signed by Joanne et Ken

Moscow Human Rights Commission

Planning Calendar

Tues., Nov21, 2023, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Dec 19, 2023, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Jan, 16, 2024, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Jan, 2024 9:00 am	MLK Jr. Breakfast
Tues., Feb, 20, 2024, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Mar 19. 2024, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Apr, 16, 2024, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., May, 21, 2024 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Jun, 18, 2024, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Wed,. Jun 19, 2024	Juneteenth
Tues., Jul, 16, 2024 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Aug, 20, 2024 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Sep, 17, 2024 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Mon., Oct 14, 2024	Indigenous People's Day
Tues., Oct 15, 2024, 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Nov 19, 2024 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room
Tues., Dec 17, 2024 4:00 pm	Monthly Meeting-City Hall 1st Floor Conference Room