

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,
October 17, 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, Lysa Salsbury, Ducati Schiff, Tara Roberts
ABSENT: Kristin Haltinner, Nick Smiley-Kallas, Elizabeth Stevens, Jana Argersinger, Lilly Hume
STAFF: Dustin Blaker (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Hailey Lewis (City Council Liaison)

Ken Faunce opened the meeting by announcing he would not seek another term on the Commission. After 16 years, he is resigning to focus on school board issues and complete his book. Commission members thanked him for his service.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for September 19, 2023 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Item 2. under reports was changed to read:

“Alan Rose, representing the task force, spoke about the letter to the Palouse Mall, which was sent previously to commissioners by email. Currently, there is only one door to the mall, which has an accessible entry. The mall will be asked to install universally accessible doors for three entrances. There was discussion regarding proposed changes to the letter, such as the benefits of providing accessible entries, mentioning ways to support, etc.”

Agidius moved to accept the minutes as amended, and Salsbury seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Six. 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. Sheikh Community Unity Award Recipient (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote for an individual's or group's name to be forwarded to Mayor Bettge as a recipient of the 2023 Sheikh Community Unity Award; or take such other appropriate action.

There was discussion. Awwad-Rafferty moved, and Roberts seconded the motion to forward Dr. Sydney Freeman Jr.'s name to Mayor Bettge as the 2023 Sheikh Community Unity Award winner. Vote: Ayes: Five. Nays: One. 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 County Human Rights Task Force Report – Joann Muneta

The table at Human Rights Day at the Market had good attendance. Prompts for the Art and Essay Contest have been released. The topic will be "Freedom of Expression and their Libraries." There will be a special presentation for the contest winners on February 10. The theme for the MLK Breakfast will be "The Purpose of Education." The task force is working with two student groups from Haltinner's class that are involved in student rights groups.

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

Faunce edited the letter with comments and feedback. The letter will be from the task force and Faunce (personally) because it cannot be sent under the Commission's signature without going through City Administration processes.

3. Restorative Justice Forum

The forum had good attendance with 17 or 18 attendees. The presenters did a great job.

4. Renaming Indian Hills Park

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

5. Pro-Voice Project

The Kenworthy Theater was full with about 170 in attendance. The stage production was very good. The Commission was unable to co-sponsor this event as Idaho law restricts public funds from being used for pro-abortion efforts. About 12 people attended the Peacekeeper Training.

6. Indigenous People's Day

The movie was a success with over 40 people attending.

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

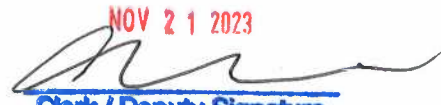
It was reported that some Moscow High School library books are being challenged. When a book is questioned, the school district's policy requires a committee of staff, librarians, and parents to review the book. The challenging individual is asked to include the issue, the page it is on, and the details of why it is being challenged.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

NOV 21 2023

Clerk / Deputy Signature

Ken Faunce, Chairperson