

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Erin Agidius
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,
April 16, 2024

4:00 PM

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:04 p.m.

PRESENT: Erin Agidius, Tara Roberts, Jana Argersinger (Zoom), Nick Smiley-Kallas, Emily Mowrer, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Jonathan Hukill
ABSENT: Lysa Salsbury, Elizabeth Stevens, Ducati Schiff, Greg Meyer
STAFF: James Fry Jr. and Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Bryce Blankenship (City Council Liaison)
GUEST: David Hall

New member Jonathan Hukill was introduced to the Commission.

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for March 19, 2024 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

There was a correction to the minutes under Reports, Item 1, Sentence 5:

*"The Rosa Parks **Student** Award was given to Rebekah Riehm, and the Rosa Parks **Community** Award was given to Kathy Dawes."*

Awwad-Rafferty moved to accept the corrected minutes, and Roberts seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Seven. 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

Muneta shared an update by email. Several task force members attended the Human Rights 101 Social Forum, and a lively conversation followed. The task force continued to develop a plan for Human Rights Day at the Market that will likely focus on exploring diversity and human rights.

2. Human Rights Commission Day at the Market – Proposed Dates: June 29, August 24 and August 28

It was noted that the last date that was proposed was *September 28*, not August 28. Agidius will inform the Commission when she hears from the Farmers Market about the final schedule.

3. Human Rights 101 – Social Justice Forum

There were approximately 15-20 attendees. The event covered a broad range of perspectives and different approaches. It was also aired on KRPL. There was a discussion about making the link available on the website again and possibly duplicating the forum in the fall.

4. Juneteenth

There was no report. Ken Faunce, the previous HRC chair, will share a contact list with Agidius to be forwarded to all members. The deputy clerk will maintain this list so it is available for any changes in Commission leadership. Argersinger volunteered to help with the event.

5. City of Moscow Commission Survey

The Commission results were distributed and discussed. The awareness numbers are the same as they were in 2008. It was suggested that a subcommittee be formed to address marketing and messaging. Roberts and Mowrer expressed interest in joining the committee. This item will be included on the May agenda. There were questions about using digital surveys in the future to save mailing costs and possibly garner more responses. It was also suggested that the Commission survey Farmers Market attendees using a QR code or by asking questions.

6. Renaming of Indian Hills Park

Smiley-Kallas has been in touch with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, which surveys archeological concerns about preserving heritage. Smiley-Kallas will also contact David Hall, guest, about this effort.

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

Agidius will email the final letter regarding two incidents of inappropriate behavior by a fan at the UI football games to Commission members and the deputy clerk for forwarding to City Administration. No other incidents were reported. Smiley-Kallas reminded attendees to be inclusive with those who are unhoused, have mental health issues, and may be in public areas. It was suggested that Darrell Kiem, Director of the Latah Recovery Center, be invited to present at a future meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Human Trafficking Exhibit

Awwad-Rafferty learned of a human trafficking effort at a conference that showcased trafficking using a picture exhibit. She asked if the Commission would be interested in exploring this topic further and considering a partnership with the organization that presented at the conference. Awwad-Rafferty will provide a link for more information. This item will be added to the May agenda.

2. Food Insecurity on the Palouse

Argersinger suggested that the Commission revisit food insecurity in our area. David Pittsley, a former Commission member, worked on this issue and will be contacted about sharing his findings. It was also suggested that Mark Heinlein, Moscow Parks & Recreation Commission Chair, and David Schott, Moscow Parks & Facilities Manager, be contacted about the city's Food Forest.

3. Accessibility to Gritman Medical Center – Letter

Agidius and Fry received a letter from a citizen concerned about accessibility in the Gritman Medical Center building. Agidius summarized the letter for meeting attendees. Hukill, an employee at Gritman, will provide information about this topic and report back at the next meeting.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.

Minutes Approved On

MAY 21 2024


Clerk / Deputy Signature

Erin Agidius, Chair