

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Erin Agidius
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,
May 21, 2024**

4:00 PM

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

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

PRESENT: Erin Agidius, Jana Argersinger (Zoom), Nick Smiley-Kallas, Emily Mowrer, Jonathan Hukill, Ducati Schiff, Lysa Salsbury

ABSENT: Elizabeth Stevens, Greg Meyer, Tara Roberts, Rula Awwad-Rafferty,

STAFF: Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Bryce Blankenship (City Council Liaison)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for April 16, 2024 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Smiley-Kallas moved to accept the corrected minutes, and Salsbury 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.

The following event was added to the calendar:

Diva Night Reproductive Rights Event, June 29, at 7:00 p.m. at the Kenworthy

3. Sponsoring of 2024 Juneteenth Commemoration (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to approve sponsorship of the Juneteenth event in collaboration with the University of Idaho; or provide staff further direction.

Agidius contacted Mario Pile, UI Director of the Black and African American Cultural Center, and Trymaine Gaither, WSU. This event will be hosted by the HRC this year and held in Friendship Square. It will be more casual than before, with tabling, a disc jockey, soul food for sale, and children's activities hosted by the Latah County Human Rights Task Force. The time

is to be determined. The Kenworthy has a film available with LaVar Burton about “Accessibility to Reading in Oakland.” The price of the film with the discount is \$700.00. Argersinger and Salsbury volunteered to help with next year’s event. Agidius will have more details about the event available by the end of the week.

Salsbury moved to sponsor the Juneteenth commemoration for up to \$750, and Smiley-Kallas seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Seven. Nays: None. 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 Recovery Center

Guest Erin Columbo, Latah Recovery Center, will present at the Human Rights Commission meeting on June 18, 2024.

2. Staff Liaison Update – Anthony Dahlinger

Mayor Bettge responded to the letter regarding inappropriate comments by a UI football fan at games, which was forwarded by the Commission. The Mayor said that curtailing poor behavior on the part of fans attending athletic events is a worthy goal; however, the letter proposed a partnership with the University to mitigate fan behavior. He recommended dialoguing with ASUI and allowing UI to deal with the issue. It was suggested that the Director of Student Involvement, who oversees all UI organizations, be contacted. Regarding the suggestion of surveying Farmer’s Market attendees about human rights issues, City Supervisor Belknap would like the questions to be reviewed initially by the staff liaison and wants the Commission to understand that a selection bias will be present with a targeted audience.

3. Latah County Human Rights Task Force

Muneta will bring the signup sheet for the Great Moscow Food Drive event on August 3rd to the next meeting. The theme of Human Rights Day at the Market is Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion, which is taken from the central theme of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 1: All Human Beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. Donations of money and food from the food drive will benefit local food banks. The task force may also donate to the Troy Food Bank this year.

4. HRC Day at the Market – Final Date (June 29)

The Commission signed up for one market event on June 29 and will help with the Great Moscow Food Drive on August 3rd. An October market date was available, but other scheduled HRC events were around that time, so the Commission will stay with one tabling event this year. Agidius will email a signup sheet for June 29.

5. Subcommittee Report – Marketing and Messaging

All were invited to join this subcommittee to increase awareness and visibility of the HRC. A pull-up banner will be designed for use at public events. The design will be forwarded to the staff liaison for approval. The committee would also like to purchase stickers and buttons. The committee wants to connect with other groups in Latah County, the City of Moscow, and the UI. Corey Oglesby, City Media Specialist, will be contacted about press releases and the City website. Agidius and Smiley-Kallas will donate personal funds for the pull-up banner due to time constraints for the Commission's approval before the event. The purchase of other promotional materials will be included on the June agenda as an action item.

6. Human Trafficking Exhibit

Awwad-Rafferty was out of town. No report.

7. Food Insecurity

David Pittsley, a former Commission member, emailed outlining his efforts regarding food insecurity before he resigned. Smiley-Kallas and Argersinger will carry this effort forward.

8. Gritman Medical Center Accessibility

Hukill contacted Gritman Medical Center's Safety and Security and Risk Management Directors. There are no public stairways; however, there is a stairwell behind the patient areas, which is restricted to patient use only. The Director of Safety and Security can be contacted to explain the ADA requirements for access to the facility. Agidius and Roberts will draft a letter to the concerned citizen who submitted the letter.

9. Support for Library Bill (Post Hoc Statement) – Argersinger

The City of Moscow passed a resolution in March regarding appropriate access to library materials for the community. Argersinger suggested the Commission develop a post hoc statement showing support for the resolution and frame it as a human rights issue. Argersinger will collaborate with Roberts regarding specific language for this letter.

10. Renaming Indian Hills Park

Smiley-Kallas has spoken to stakeholders by email. He will follow up on suggestions to get information regarding where the "Indian Hills" name originated.

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

There were no new reports.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Several members will not attend the June meeting: Blankenship, Agidius, and Smiley-Kallas. Agidius will survey the members before the meeting to see if a quorum will be available.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Erin Agidius, Chair

Moscow Human Rights Commission

2024 Planning Calendar

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