

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Erin Agidius
Chair
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Regular Meeting
~Minutes~

Anthony Dahlinger
Staff Liaison
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<https://www.ci.moscow.id.us/450/Human-Rights-Commission>

**Tuesday,
July 16, 2024**

4:00 PM

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

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

PRESENT: Elizabeth Stevens, Jana Argersinger, Nick Smiley-Kallas, Emily Mowrer, Greg Meyer, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Tara Roberts, Erin Agidius, Ducati Schiff, Julia Keleher

ABSENT: Jonathan Hukill

STAFF: Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Bryce Blankenship (council liaison)

The meeting opened with an introduction of new commission member Julia Keleher

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for June 18, 2024 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Mowrer moved to accept the corrected minutes, and Argersinger seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Ten. 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.

One correction to the calendar was noted:

Human Rights Day at the Market will be held on *September 7* instead of September 2.

Updates were made to the calendar.

3. Sponsorship of Latah Recovery Center Festival (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to approve \$250.00 for co-sponsorship of the Latah Recovery Center's Annual Recovery Festival held on September 7, 2024; or provide staff further

direction.

The commission will host a table, and Erin will provide a signup sheet for volunteers.

Smiley-Kallas moved to approve \$350.00 to co-sponsor the Latah Recover Center's Annual Recovery Festival, and Awwad-Rafferty seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Ten. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

4. Sponsorship and Table for Inland Oasis Palouse Pride in the Park Event (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to approve \$150.00 for a table (\$50) and sponsorship (\$100) for the Inland Oasis Palouse Pride in the Park event; or provide staff further direction.

In the past, Ken Faunce coordinated the Pride March. If anyone, as an individual, would like to take the helm for this year and coordinate a march with Inland Oasis, please contact Agidius or Stevens by the end of the week. Agidius will provide a signup for the table at the event.

Roberts moved to sponsor Palouse Pride in the Park with a bronze sponsorship of \$225.00 (includes a table), and Argersinger seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Ten. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

5. 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

The signup sheet for the food drive is complete. Roberts will prepare a press release for the drive, which will be sent out through the commission's notification list. More buttons will be purchased for the Pride event. If funds allow, additional buttons will be purchased at the end of the fiscal year. Agidius will bring a thank you card for the UI Women's Center, which allowed the use their button-making machine.

2. HRC Day at the Market – Recap

There were good community conversations. The pullup banner and buttons brought a lot of visitors to the table.

3. Subcommittee Report – Marketing and Messaging

The tri-fold brochure and Bias Incident Flyer have been updated. The committee would like to distribute more posters. There was discussion regarding adding a QR code to publications for direct access to sign up for notifications on the City website.

4. Human Trafficking Exhibit

There was no report.

5. Food Insecurity

Backyard Harvest is shutting down. The Inland Oasis will implement a food garden. Argersinger suggested a stronger commitment from the commission regarding food insecurity. This item will be included on the August agenda.

6. Gritman Medical Center Accessibility Letter – Agidius / Roberts

A letter will be crafted to the citizen who had issues with Gritman Medical Center's access. The letter will acknowledge receipt of the concern and defer to Gritman Medical Center's Administration for further information.

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

There was a discussion about language for the support letter. Argersinger will partner with Roberts on the letter.

8. Renaming Indian Hills Park

The Latah Historical Society is looking into the origin of the park's name.

9. Inclusive Communities Month.

There was discussion regarding possible themes/events for Inclusive Communities Month.

- Tying the United Against Hate event into Inclusive Communities Month if the event date is flexible
- "Bringing Everyone to the Table" was suggested as a title with "bringing in civility in conversations and communicating in difference" as the theme
- Braver Angels workshop – Argersinger will contact
- Dinner at the 1912 Center (Agidius will check availability. The Great Room is currently available for Wed., Sept. 26)
- Connecting with the Disability Action Center about communication
- CommunityUnity Walk
- International students (Schiff will contact)

Keleher offered to help. Karen will send the commissioners a draft paragraph of this section for follow-up.

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

Other than a few hecklers at HRC Day at the Market, there were no issues

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2. Joshua Hurwit, US Attorney for Idaho, emailed the Latah County Human Rights Task Force and Mayor Bettge regarding hosting a “United Against Hate” event, tentatively scheduled for October 2. The event will educate the public about federal hate crimes and civil rights statutes and will enhance reporting and enforcement. The event would also include a panel with possibly questions (in writing) from the audience. The 1912 Center, City Hall Council Chambers, and the Vandal Ballroom were suggested as possible venues. Utilization of Council Chambers would allow for a Zoom option and recording of the meeting. UI Homecoming activities will also be occurring that week. Mowrer, Awwad-Rafferty, and Stevens are interested in helping plan this event. The police will be on the panel, and it may be possible to have the UI involved. This item will remain on the agenda.

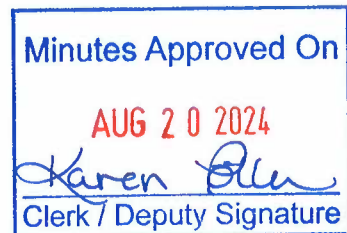
2. Staff Liaison Anthony Dahlinger clarified the process for sponsorships and letters representing the commission. The City Administration approves each sponsorship and letter, as the commission is an arm of the city. He will formalize the commission's process to ensure its priorities and limitations are followed. Dahlinger also clarified that there are no hard and fast guidelines about Zoom meetings. Zoom commission meetings were widely practiced during COVID. City Administration would like the members of every commission to do their best to attend commission meetings in person because the meetings are open and public meetings, and commissioners are encouraged to attend in person. However, if sickness restricts members from attending, they will be offered a Zoom call. Moscow City Code, Title 3, Chapter 12, outlining the purposes and duties of the Human Rights Commission, will be sent to each commission member following the meeting.

3. Karen Potter will contact Corey Oglesby about attending HRC’s August meeting to explain City guidelines for social media posts, press releases, and posting on the City website.

4. Blankenship noted that Agidius presented the annual HRC update to the City Council on Monday night and did a great job!

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.



Erin Agidius, Chair