

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,
October 15, 2024**

4:00 PM

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

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Erin Agidius, Elizabeth Stevens, Nick Smiley-Kallas, Jana Argersinger, Jonathan Hukill, Ducati Schiff,
ABSENT: Tara Roberts, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Emily Mowrer, Greg Meyer
STAFF: Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Crista VanOvermeer (deputy clerk), Bryce Blankenship (council liaison)
GUEST: William Janzer, Moscow, Idaho

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for September 17, 2024 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

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

Stevens moved to accept the minutes, and Hukill 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.

There were no updates to the calendar.

3. Sponsorship of the Native American Heritage Month Event (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to approve \$100 for room rental for the Native American Heritage Month event presentation by RandyL'Teton at the 1912 Center; or provide staff further direction.

This event was previously approved by City Administration.

Argersinger moved to approve \$100 for the room rental for RandyL'Teton's presentation and Hukill seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Six. 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.

Guest William Janzer stated various issues and events are affecting the Jewish community in Moscow and Pullman and the University of Idaho and Washington State University campuses. A Pullman City Council member is denying current genocides in Jewish communities, domestically and abroad. News agencies are falsifying news and death numbers. There have been Title IX and VI violations at the University of Idaho. Janzer requested the City of Moscow to adopt the resolution for the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance (IHRA). He also requested help with education. The Alliance sets up rules for recognizing anti-Semitism. This topic is discussed in further detail in Item #5 below.

REPORTS

1. Latah Human Rights Task Force Report – Joann Muneta

The Martin Luther King Junior Essay Contest topic is "Promise of Democracy." The MLK Breakfast will be held on January 25, 2025. The task force will draft a statement to the public and elected officials regarding the comment made by Dan Foreman to a Nez Perce Tribal Member. Living Voices provides free history presentations to public school students in the spring without cost. Anne Frank may be chosen as a focus for these presentations. The task force may hold another "United Against Hate" Forum.

2. Subcommittee Report – Market and Messaging – Roberts / Mowrer

There was no report.

3. Human Trafficking Exhibit – Awwad-Rafferty

There was no report.

4. Gritman Medical Center Accessibility Letter – Agidius / Roberts

There was no update. It may be best to send a formal complaint to the City of Moscow regarding public and private buildings. They can then determine which individual, Alisa Anderson or Justin Goodwin, would be the best to file a complaint with.

5. Resolution for International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance

Guest Janzer provided answers to questions, examples of educational opportunities, and information on how to file a bias report with the Alliance. An ordinance has been drafted and sent to the Moscow City Council. City Councilman Blakenship stated that the City has been apprehensive about making statements regarding international events as it can "open a can of

worms.” The City of Mercer Island, Washington, has adopted the IHRA and is open to a dialogue about the adoption process. Staff Liaison Dahlinger clarified the legal process for ordinances and resolutions and stated the Commission may help draft or support an ordinance or a resolution. There was a question about the City’s definition of a “bias.” The University of Idaho may or may not share Title IX Violations with the City. Members of the Jewish community are a protected class. It was suggested that the Commission make an action item regarding the objectives of continuing to educate our community.

6. Nez Perce Tribe Press Release

Nez Perce Tribal Executive Committee acknowledged the United Against Hate Forum and the Commission was mentioned in the tribe’s press release. The Commission cannot issue a statement regarding what Dan Foreman stated to a Nez Perce Tribal member; it would be more realistic for the Latah County Human Rights Task Force to do this. It was noted that there is no Territorial Acknowledgement given before City meetings. Deputy Clerk Potter will be asked to gather a list of previously issued inclusivity statements and forward it to Agidius to consider a broader statement about inclusivity.

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

No new incidents or reports.

It was noted that the Support for the Library Bill (Post Hoc Statement) was inadvertently left off the meeting agenda and will be added to the November agenda.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.

Erin Agidius, Chair

Moscow Human Rights Commission

2024 Planning Calendar

[illegible]