

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Erin Agidius
Chair
hrc@ci.moscow.id.us

Regular Meeting ~Minutes~

Anthony Dahlinger
Staff Liaison
208-883-7064

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

Tuesday,
January 21, 2025

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 (Chair), Elizabeth Stevens, Jana Argersinger (Zoom), Jonathan Hukill, Tara Roberts, Greg Meyer

ABSENT: Ducati Schiff, Rula Awwad-Rafferty, Nicholas Smiley-Kallas, Emily Mowrer

STAFF: Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Julia Parker (council liaison)

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Approval of Human Rights Commission Minutes for December 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.

Roberts moved to accept the minutes, and Stevens seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Abstentions: One. 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.

3. Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Nomination and election of Commission Chair and Vice Chair positions.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Elect individuals to fill the above positions or take other such action deemed appropriate.

Agidius was nominated as Commission Chair and Stevens as Vice Chair.

Agidius moved, and Roberts seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

4. Sponsorship of the Film, “Moses: 13 Steps” (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to approve \$475.00 for sponsorship of the above film to celebrate Black History Month in February; or provide staff further direction.

City administration has approved sponsorship of his film; however, Edwin Moses's appearance is cost-restrictive for the Kenworthy Theatre. Another film, with the approval by city administration, may be shown in its place.

Stevens moved to approve \$475.00 to sponsor a movie celebrating Black History Month, and Hukill seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Six. 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.

Vanessa Anthony-Stevens, Moscow. Anthony-Stevens expressed interest in and appreciation for the work of the Human Rights Commission. She has submitted a commission application to city administration.

Tom Riverman, Moscow.

REPORTS

1. Latah Human Rights Task Force Report – Joann Muneta

The task force is working on the Martin Luther King Breakfast. A Zoom link is available on the website and can be activated at 9:40 a.m. The Art and Essay Contest submissions will be judged on January 30th, and the winners will be awarded on February 8, 2025. Planning is underway for the United Against Hate Forum Part II, which will be held on either April 2nd or 8th. Part I was held during Inclusive Communities Month last September. Commissioners expressing an interest in volunteering for this event are Stevens, Roberts to help with marketing, and Argersinger to assist remotely.

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

The city website has gone public. Roberts will contact Corey Oglesby about adding a sponsorship request form and the Bias Reporting System page. The finalized Bias Reporting System flyer will be forwarded to Dahlinger and to city administration for approval.

3. Subcommittee Report – Diversity Programs Support – Awwad-Rafferty, Argersinger and Meyer

Argersinger will coordinate a Zoom meeting for this subcommittee.

4. Human Trafficking Exhibit – Awwad-Rafferty

No report.

5. Accessibility, Advocacy, and Education

This item will continue to be included on the agenda to advocate for community accessibility improvements and education. There are concerns about snow removal on sidewalks. This issue is complaint-driven with follow-up by the city code enforcement officer. When there is a problem, the officer places a reminder at the residence. If there is no compliance, a citation will be issued. Roberts will create a “utility billing insert” reminding residents of the City Code and their responsibility to keep sidewalks clear. A video post and information on social media was also suggested as a way to educate citizens. Nancy Chaney has requested an exercise downtown to educate patrons about the problems with accessibility. This effort would also provide an opportunity to connect with the community.

6. Strengthening the Relationship between the City of Moscow and Tribes – Awaad-Rafferty

There was no report.

7. Educational Forum – Film-- Religious Tolerance - Roberts

Roberts met with Colin Mannex, Kenworthy Executive Director, about showing the film, “Where the Olive Trees Grow.” A four to six-month lead time is required to acquire films. It may be an option for a showing in the fall. Religious intolerance may also be considered a theme for Inclusive Communities Month. Mannex will attend the commission’s February meeting to talk about other films and summer matinees to be considered for commission sponsorship.

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

No incidents were reported.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Future agendas will include Juneteenth and Inclusive Communities Month for planning purposes. WSU still has a DEI office and would like to partner with the commission on Juneteenth.

2. Inland Oasis sent a thank you card for the commission’s sponsorship of Pride Fest.

3. There was discussion of the commission’s role in diversity, education, and inclusion and striking a balance due to city and state funding. The commission will choose actions and recommendations that are clearly supported by our mission as a commission. Our mission will be stated on future agendas. Parker expressed her appreciation for the commission and wants commissioners to feel empowered to move items through the city council, which wants their ideas and proposals.

4. There were introductions of attendees before adjourning.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Erin Agidius, Chair

