

# HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Erin Agidius  
Chair  
[hrc@ci.moscow.id.us](mailto: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 20, 2026**

**4:00 PM**

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

**The meeting was called to order at 4:03 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Erin Agidius, Nicholas Smiley-Kallas, Elizabeth Stevens, Vanessa Stevens, John Freeland  
**ABSENT:** Jana Argersinger, Jim Huggins, Rula Awwad-Rafferty  
**STAFF:** Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Sage McCetich (council liaison)

*Sage McCetich, the commission's newly appointed council liaison, was welcomed to the meeting.*

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **1. Mission of the Human Rights Commission**

The mission statement was read at the beginning of the meeting.

### **2. Approval of Minutes for December 19, 2025 (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 minutes as amended, and V. Stevens seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

### **3. 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 changes to the calendar. The HRC at the Market event will be added to the February calendar.

### **4. Election of Chair and Vice Chair (ACTION ITEM)**

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 to accept the full slate of nominations, and Freeland seconded the motion. It passed unanimously. Vote: Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

**5. 2026-2027 Human Rights Commission Budget Request (ACTION ITEM)**

The budget request for fiscal year 2026-2027 will be discussed and voted upon.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Vote to approve the commission's budget request or take other action deemed appropriate.

There was discussion. Last year, the commission requested \$6,000, and the budget was reduced to \$3,250. Budget cuts are expected to continue in the 2026/2027 fiscal year. The commission plans to support the following events: Palouse Pride, the MLK Breakfast, the Latah Recovery Festival, and Juneteenth. There is currently a \$2,000 balance in the budget, and the commission anticipates spending another \$1,500, leaving \$500 for other needs.

Smiley-Kallas moved to request \$5,000 for fiscal year 2026-2027, and Freeland seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Five. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

**6. 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.

Grace Clevenger of Moscow will be applying to the commission for the college seat in the near future.

## **REPORTS**

**1. Latah County Human Rights Task Force Report**

The MLK Breakfast has sold out, and there is a waiting list. The breakfast will begin at 9:30 a.m., with the live stream starting at 9:45. The link will be available on the task force website. The Art and Essay contest entries are due January 29. A public presentation of the winner's pieces will be held on February 7 at 2 p.m. in the Lecompte Room at the 1912 Center. The theme of the contest is "Goals and Values of Education." The task force would like to partner with the commission again this year for the Great Moscow Food Drive, held in August. They would appreciate event volunteers and publicity assistance. The task force is working to develop a human rights coalition but is unsure how to be strategic and effective at this time.

**2. 2026-2027 Budget Planning – due by February 1<sup>st</sup>**

Agidius will prepare the budget request letter and email it to the commissioners before the final submission on February 1st.

**3. Better Together Dinner – Argersinger**

Argersinger was not present to provide a report.

**4. Welcoming Schools / Welcoming Cities – Argersinger**

Argersinger was not present to provide a report.

**5. Mapping Subcommittee – Awwad-Rafferty**

Awwad-Rafferty was not present to provide a report.

**6. Discussion of Future Agenda Items (considering budget constraints)**

- De-escalation Education
- Human Trafficking Exhibit
- Additional Restorative Justice Forum
- Discrimination and Harassment

As the commission refocuses its efforts, the following items have been prioritized and will be considered for social justice forums:

- (1) Discrimination and Harassment – What is it? What it isn't? What is the law? There have been comments in the community pertaining to this issue.
- (2) Immigration and ICE – What does this mean in our community? What does one do? Geoffrey Heeren, from the UI Law School, may be contacted about being involved in a forum.

De-escalation education, a human trafficking exhibit, and an additional restorative justice forum will be removed from the agenda for now.

**7. Human Rights Coalition – Argersinger**

Argersinger was not present to provide a report.

**8. Marketing and Messaging**

Help is needed with graphic design, press release preparation, and marketing for the commission. It would be very helpful to have a journalist or graphic designer on the commission, whether a high school or college student, or a citizen. Commissioners were asked to reach out to anyone who might be interested. A suggestion was also made to partner with a UI advisor to offer a one-credit course to interested students.

**9. Letter to City Council Response – Agidius**

Councilmember Blankenship emailed the commissioners earlier this month. As the council liaison, McCitech would like to help ensure clear communication between the city council and the commission. The commission would like at least one month's notice before new policies and procedures take effect.

**10. Commission Vacancies**

There are currently three vacancies on the commission—one college seat and two community citizen seats. All are voting members. There is also a non-voting high school seat available.

**11. City Survey Results**

The city survey, completed at the end of 2025, focused on eligibility for Idaho Community Development Block Funding. The last commission survey was a few years ago. A link to that survey will be forwarded to commissioners for review.

**12. Report on Hate Incidents / Moscow as an Inclusive Community**

There were no reports.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 4:59 p.m.

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Erin Agidius, Chair

# Moscow Human Rights Commission

## 2026 Planning Calendar

Event	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	Feb. 17	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	March 17	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	April 21	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	May 19	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	June 16	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Juneteenth	Fri.	June 19		
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	July 21	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	August 18	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	September 15	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Indigenous People's Day	Mon.	Oct. 12		
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	Oct. 20	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	Nov. 17	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	Dec. 15	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
<b>HRC at the Market</b>	Sat.	<b>TBD</b>	8 a.m.	Friendship Square