

# 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,  
May 19, 2026**

**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, Jana Argersinger, Nicholas Smiley-Kallas, Jim Huggins, Courtney Jensen,

**ABSENT:** Rula Awwad-Rafferty, John Freeland, Vanessa Stevens

**STAFF:** Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Karen Potter (deputy clerk), Crista VanOvermeer (deputy clerk), Sage McCetich (council liaison)

## **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 April 21, 2026 (ACTION ITEM)**

Minutes presented for approval.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** None

Smiley-Kallas moved to accept the minutes as is, and Argersinger seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Eight. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

### **3. Review of Calendar (ACTION ITEM)**

Review of upcoming meetings and events.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Add/edit items to the calendar; or take such other action deemed appropriate.

The following information will be added to the calendar:

- Great Moscow Food Drive, Saturday, August 1, 8:00 a.m - Farmer's Market & East City Park

**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 actions deemed appropriate.

There was discussion about the length of terms for both positions and what it might look like if no one was nominated for the positions. If individuals are nominated and elected, the term will be an interim position until December 2026, when regular elections will take place. Potter stated she will check with the City Clerk to determine what would happen if no one were elected, and if members can take turns volunteering until an election (either special or regular) is able to be held.

Argersinger moved to table this matter until the next meeting, and Smiley-Kallas seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Eight. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

**5. Sponsorship and Table for Inland Oasis Palouse Pride in the Park (ACTION ITEM)** A vote will be taken to approve up to \$235 for a table and sponsorship at the Inland Oasis Palouse Pride event. If approved, this item will be forwarded to City Administration for final approval. **PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Vote to approve up to \$235 for a table and sponsorship at the Inland Oasis Palouse Pride event; or provide staff with further direction.

There was discussion and Huggins provided a breakdown and clarity of the budget. He also asks that the HRC have better table placement than the year prior. Dahlinger has the appropriate paperwork signed and is awaiting a vote to push it forward for sponsorship.

Stevens moved to approve \$235 for the Bronze Sponsorship and Table, and Huggins seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Eight. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion carried.

**5. Sponsorship of Juneteenth Event (ACTION ITEM)** A vote will be taken to approve up to \$500 to sponsor a portion of the Juneteenth event. If approved, this item will be forwarded to City Administration for final approval. **PROPOSED ACTIONS:** Vote to approve up to \$500 for a direct sponsorship of the Juneteenth Event; or provide staff with further support.

Agidius gave a brief synopsis of what the event will entail, and possible additions to making it multiple day event. Sage posed the question about the location of the event, and if it happens to be held in Pullman in that would be a conflict; It was determined this would not be an issue. Dahlinger stated this sponsorship would be written up for approval, and following the commission vote/approval.

Stevens moved to approve \$500 direct sponsorship of the DJ for the Juneteenth event and Huggins seconded the motion. Vote: Ayes: Eight. 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.

## REPORTS

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

Muneta stated the presentations at the beginning of the month were a success, with over 200 total in attendance. She stated their next event is the Great Moscow Food Drive, on August 1<sup>st</sup>, being held Market, and East City Park, and any volunteer involvement is greatly appreciated. LCHRTF will be sponsoring Palouse Pride at the Bronze level, and the Juneteenth event at \$300. Muneta reminded Human Rights Day at the Market is September 12<sup>th</sup>.

*Note: Because information regarding Agenda Items #2 and #3 blended together, these two items were combined and reported together:*

### 2. **Welcoming Cities, and Better Together Dinner – Argersinger and Huggins**

Argersinger has been in contact with Briana Broberg of Welcoming America about the Rural Welcoming Initiative. The initiative would serve as a conduit for other programs, including the Better Together Dinner and a future coalition. We would be partnered with a city of similar size and demographics, as a “Sister City,” and could tailor our needs to the City of Moscow. Benefits include technical assistance, peer systems, coaching, and a “Welcoming City” certification. There may also be financial support, such as a stipend to cover attendance at a Rural Welcoming Gathering. There was discussion about whether a city-sponsored commission could receive this type of financial support, Agidius would clarify with City Attorney Bautista and City Administrator Belknap if this type of item is acceptable, Dahlinger will draft the paperwork for Council approval. The 2027 Award Application opens in October. Information will be sent to Staff Liaison Dahlinger for city approval regarding membership and the financial connection to city government.

A physical draft of the 2025 Better Together Dinner Report was distributed and will be included as an email to be discussed at the next meeting. It was stated, as reminder, the Better Together Dinner and the Sheikh Award are done on alternating years, so sponsorship/finances should not be an issue.

### 3. **Social Justice Forums**

- Know Your Rights Workshop: Immigrants, Refugees, and Allies event was held in March. It was well-publicized with about 20-30 in attendance.
- Discrimination and Harassment. City Attorney Mia Bautista and Latah County Prosecutor Ashley Jennings will participate in an event and possibly one more.

### 4. **Human Rights Coalition – Argersinger**

Smiley-Kallas contacted the Idaho Human Rights Commission and found they are enforcing Title IX and looking into those violations only. He also contacted the HRC in Boise. Our HRC seems to be unique. Muneta provided clarification on the Coalition, as she has extensive knowledge on the topic. It was determined, at future meetings, this item will be combined with the Latah County Human Rights Task Force for Muneta to report on.

**5. Marketing and Messaging – Agidius**

Per Agidius, this item is no longer needed and will be dropped from future agendas.

**6. Inclusive Communities Month - Agidius**

This is no longer a state-supported initiative and will be treated as a free-form social justice forum.

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

No incidents reported this month

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**ADJOURN**

The meeting adjourned at 5:15 p.m.

---

Erin Agidius, Chair

Moscow Human Rights Commission  
2026 Planning Calendar

Event	Day of Week	Date	Time	Location
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	June 16	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Juneteenth	Fri.	June 19		Pullman, WA
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	July 21	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Great Moscow Food Drive	Sat.	August 1	8 a.m.	Farmer's Market & East City Park
Monthly Meeting	Tues.	August 18	4 p.m.	Mayor's Conf. Rm.
Palouse Pride	Sat.	August 29	Noon	Farmer's Market
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.