

HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION



Nick Smiley-Kallas
Commission Vice 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,
July 21, 2026**

4:00 PM

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

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

PRESENT: Jana Argersinger, Jim Huggins, Courtney Jensen, Jacob Navarret, Nick Smiley-Kallas, Elizabeth Stevens, Joann Muneta

ABSENT: Rula Awward-Rafferty, John Freeland

STAFF: Anthony Dahlinger (staff liaison), Trisha Bruce (deputy clerk), Sage McCetich (City Council Liaison)

GUESTS: Katherine Cavanaugh, Tom Riverman, Moscow Reporter

REGULAR AGENDA

1. Mission of the Human Rights Commission

The Mission was read.

2. Approval of Minutes for June 16, 2026 (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes presented for approval.

PROPOSED ACTION: Approved Minutes as presented. Huggins motioned to approve minutes; Jensen seconded.

Vote: Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion Carried.

3. Review of Calendar (ACTION ITEM)

Review of upcoming meetings and events.

PROPOSED ACTIONS:

Added: August 1st, Great Moscow Food Drive 2026, location is East City Park and Moscow's Farmer's Market, time at both locations is 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Edited: Corrected location of August 29th Inland Oasis Palouse Pride '26 to East City Park.

Smiley- Kallas motioned to approve calendar.

Vote: Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion Carried.

4. Budget (ACTION ITEM)

A vote will be taken to approve \$500 for sponsorship of a Social Justice Forum event.

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Vote to approve \$500 for this sponsorship; or table the funding discussion until August.

Huggins brought updated spreadsheets for budget FYE 09/30/2025 and FYE 09/30/2026. He discussed using what they have before they lose it, demonstrating how the budget funds were not utilized fully in FY 24-25 and were cut for FY 25-26. Higgins discussed areas of overage and recommended cuts. Dahlinger brought up City Council's proposed budget cuts for FY 26-27. Argersinger ask Councilman McCetich if Commissioners could have public input to budget cuts and asked best practices for public awareness concerning budget discussions at the City Council. Councilman McCetich reminded that finances are always on the City of Moscow website.

Smiley-Kallas spoke on continued efforts to lock in dates with speakers. City Attorney and City Prosecutor continue to be unavailable in September, but their expertise is the center of the Forum and remains a priority to have speak. In lieu of proposed budget cuts, Muneta questioned if the Shiekh Award could be removed from HRC's budget. Smiley-Kallas mentioned requesting a meeting with City council to address concerns but recommended the Commission tighten their belts as budget cuts are a two-way street. Stevens agreed with tightening their belts and moving forward with the Social Justice forum but removing the honorarium. Stevens asked if the forum date could move to October, due to difficulty in finding available speakers in September. Dahlinger informed commission that FY 25-26 funds would not be used for a FY 26-27 event. Huggins suggested to spend on refreshments and agreed to remove honorarium.

Smiley- Kallas motioned to approve reducing funds to \$250 and move forward with planning this event. Stevens seconded. Motion carried.

Vote: Ayes: Six. Nays: None. Abstentions: None. Motion Carried.

5. Citizen's Survey (ACTION ITEM)

PROPOSED ACTIONS: Define two questions to submit to the City of Moscow.

Smiley-Kallas asked when the last survey was conducted. Dahlinger confirmed it was in 2023 and would forward those questions and feedback. Smiley-Kallas suggested the commission come

prepared to the next regular meeting with at least one potential question. He proposed for the board to discuss and select two questions for HRC to put forward to the City of Moscow. Questions are due no later than August 30th.

Smiley- Kallas motioned to approve defining and voting on two questions at next regular meeting.

Vote: Ayes: Six. 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.

Muneta, Moscow

Great Moscow Food Drive 2026 is a joint venture between Latah County Human Rights Task Force – United Community Coalition and Human Rights Commission (HRC). Muneta offered HRC to have signage at the event table. With budget discussions, Muneta wanted to reaffirm Latah County Human Rights Task Force – United Community Coalition is paying for any event costs, fully. Request for two more volunteers. Smiley-Kallas volunteered. Muneta handed out fliers and suggested the commission help spread the word.

Muneta, Moscow

Latah County Human Rights Task Force – United Community Coalition (Task Force) had 300-400 people attend the United in Community Bring-Your-Own 4th of July Picnic. There wasn't music and they ran out of ice cream, but the community enjoyed the picnic, and the Task Force is anticipating doing it again next year.

Argersinger, Moscow

Inland Oasis Palouse Pride '26 continues to require more volunteers to host the table. Additionally, having refreshments and baked good would be welcome. Jensen offered trinkets as an alternative to baked goods. Argersinger reminded the group there will be a sidewalk march from Downtown to East City Park at the top of the event.

Jensen- Moscow

Asked the Commission who is responsible for updating information from event sign up sheets. The commission decided Smiley-Kallas would enter any previous information, and Jensen would upkeep from there.

Cavanaugh, Moscow

Introduced herself and expressed interest in joining the Commission.

Argersinger, Moscow

Asked Huggins if FY 25-26 Better Together Dinner expenditure is proposed to be the same funding amount next year. Higgins replied yes. Smiley-Kallas asked to have this as an action item for the next regular meeting.

REPORTS

1. Social Justice Forums- Smiley-Kallas and Argersinger

Argersinger said the presentation went well. Smiley-Kallas did a wonderful job opening and discussing the mission of HRC. Argersinger felt the partnership with City Council was strengthened and City Council was warm and receptive. Mayor Lewis requested HRC to send the Rural Welcoming Initiative application information. This is something that should come from the City of Moscow and not the Commission. Moscow, if accepted, would be the third city in Idaho, after Boise and Twin Falls.

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

No incidents to report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilman McCetich requested the commission to assist in creating bullet notes for him to take to the City Council at each meeting.

UPCOMING EVENTS / MEETINGS

Next regular meeting is August 18th, 4 p.m., Mayor's Conference Room.

ADJOURN

Argersinger motioned to adjourn meeting. Navarrette seconded.
The meeting adjourned at 5:14 p.m.

Nick Smiley-Kallas, Vice Chairperson

City of Moscow

Human Rights Commission

2026 Planning Calendar

Month	Date	Day	Time	Event	Location
May	16	Saturday	8:00 a.m.	HRC at the Market	Friendship Square
May	19	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room
June	16	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room
June	19	Friday	5:00 - 7:00 p.m.	Juneteenth	Pullman
July	21	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room
August	1	Saturday	8:00 - 1:00 p.m.	Great Mocow Food Drive	Market/East City Park
August	18	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room
August	29	Saturday	12:00 p.m.	Inland Oasis Palouse Pride	East City Park
September	15	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room
October	12	Monday	TBD	Indigenous People's Day	TBD
October	20	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room
November	17	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room
December	15	Tuesday	4:00 - 5:30 p.m.	Regular Meeting	Mayor's Conferene Room

