



former police officer, briefly described various crime prevention programs available through the ONI program – and then focused on “Neighborhood Watch”, which he described as a basic “meat-and-potatoes program”.

There are 450 Neighborhood Watch programs in active operation currently in Portland; each is usually one block long in extent, plus or minus. There are four Neighborhood Watches in Sellwood-Westmoreland right now, and he hopes to generate several more. One of these cannot start until the organizer and participants have been trained, though, and that takes about an hour in a group meeting at some convenient location. “Be the eyes and ears of your neighbors, and the police,” he urged. He also discussed at some length how establishing a Neighborhood Watch can help end a drug house problem in a neighborhood.

Wells went on to discuss the procedure for setting up and operating a Neighborhood Watch, and showed the audience new signage for the program. He gave tips on preventing crime on residential property, and endorsed the “Next Door” public website as one source of useful information.

Robert McCulloch was next to speak. He is the Chair of the Eastmoreland Neighborhood Association, and is currently also the President of the Board of the Southeast Uplift neighborhood coalition. He remarked that ENA and SMILE go back as far as 1924 – long preceding the establishment of the Portland Neighborhood System by the city in 1975, an outgrowth of the successful citizen effort to block the construction of the Mt. Hood Freeway along the Powell Boulevard alignment.

When the Neighborhood System was established, ENA and SMILE joined as new neighborhood associations. There are 95 such associations in the City of Portland today. Also present for the presentation by McCulloch was Katy Asher, our own SEUL liaison.

There are seven “Neighborhood Coalitions”, one of which is Southeast Uplift (a 501c3 nonprofit, as is SMILE). These are intended to service as city-authorized “support organizations” for each neighborhood association. McCulloch discussed some of the SEUL programs and the support it offers SMILE. SEUL is also “our avenue for dialogue with the city”. Although the some-twenty neighborhoods that Southeast Uplift serves are each to have a seat on the SEUL Board, at present SMILE is not represented there, and McCulloch wants SMILE to appoint someone to represent SMILE. It does not have to be someone actually on the SMILE Board, though that is desirable; just someone designated by the SMILE Board to represent it before Southeast Uplift. There were no immediate takers. Two people in the audience present left the meeting during this presentation. President Hoffnagle announced that this would be an agenda item at the March SMILE Board Meeting on March 18.

Katy Asher followed McCulloch, offering some specific examples of ways that Southeast Uplift can support SMILE.

There being no other business on the agenda, or offered by anyone present, and with no quorum yet present to pass a motion of adjournment, President Gail Hoffnagle declared the meeting ended at 8:46 pm.