

SMILE GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING

October 7, 2015

SMILE Station

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Procedural

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OFFICERS PRESENT: Corinne Stefanick, President; Gail Hoffnagle, Vice President;
Eric Norberg, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Nancy Walsh; Miriam Erb; David Schoellhamer;
Steve Szigethy; Bob Burkholder

President Stefanick called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, and asked those present to introduce themselves, in turn, around the room. She went on to announce that two Board members have moved out of the Sellwood-Westmoreland neighborhood, and thus have resigned their seats – Mat Millenbach and Tenisha Caceres. Consequently, we have two Board openings for which we will conduct an election at the next General meeting on October 7, to complete those two Board terms. The term of Caceres' seat, which itself was filled at the May election by Caceres in place of another resigned Board member, will expire in April, 2016. The term of Millenbach's seat will expire in April of 2017. We have three announced candidates so far, and more are welcome.

Stefanick told those present that we have picked up a computer granted, by Free Geek, to the Moreland Farmers Market; since the Market, though nonprofit, is not a 501c3, they are ineligible to receive grants, and so SMILE – which *IS* a 501c3 – accepted the grant on their behalf acting as their fiscal sponsor, and we then presented the computer to the Market. It will help them keep track of the accounting of their SNAP (former Food Stamp) program.

Stefanick then invited a review of the minutes of the September 2nd General Meeting. After the review was completed and the presence of a quorum was confirmed, Steve Szigethy asked for an addition, which he specified, to the minutes. The Board concurred. Rodney Pflieger moved that the minutes be accepted as amended, and Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, which passed without objection.

The meeting began with a brief appearance by Marty Stockton, Southeast Division Liaison for the Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, who gave an update on the Portland Comprehensive Plan project. The latest version of the plan, in PDF form, is posted for downloading on our procedural website, www.SMILErecords.org. There are still commenting opportunities for the public; but November 16 is the deadline for public comments and discussion concerning the draft of Mixed Use Zoning. Stockton discussed the next steps and procedures in the process, as the plan advances toward formal adoption by the City Council.

Elizabeth Milner, Co-Chair of the SMILE S.N.A.C. committee, gave a brief report intended to bring those present up to date on what the committee does, and to invite participation. She told when the committee meets, and what its purpose is; it has a couple of ongoing

projects, and is always open to more. She recapped the Westmoreland Park Salmon Celebration, in which S.N.A.C. participated, and the Oaks Bottom Overlook “pocket park” project – and told the sources of the tiny park’s amenities, and also of its maintenance events – everyone is welcome to be involved in those, or any other committee project. She concluded with a recap of the SMILE “Sellwood Gap” project – now to be called “Springwater Meadow”.

Next to speak was Nancy Walsh, who among other things is Chair of the SMILE Church Committee. She told how she set up an informational table at the Oaks Pioneer Church during the recent Sunday Parkways bike and pedestrian event, explaining to those present that SMILE’s financial resources are dependent upon the revenue derived from renting the church and SMILE Station for weddings and various other events. There was lots of traffic past the church that day – “tons of people went by” – and she gave tours of the church to those interested. She finished by calling on local residents to spread the word about SMILE’s great rental facilities. The church will get some rehab work this winter, she said.

Winston Sandino, Project Manager for the Portland Bureau of Transportation (PBO’T), was next to appear – to report on plans for the north end of the “19th Avenue Greenway Project”. He showed a plan for a bike-oriented traffic island in the large intersection on Milwaukie Avenue at S.E. Mitchell Street, which as designed would result in an **increase** of about seven parking places over what is available there now. He answered questions and discussed considerations and details at length. It’s expected there will be a flashing pedestrian/bicycle beacon device at the Mitchell Street crossing at Milwaukie Avenue. He also shared traffic volume measurement statistics for the streets involved in the project from Bybee northward.

Next on the agenda was Daniel Newberry, new Executive Director of the Johnson Creek Watershed Council (JCWC), the office for which is just south of Sellwood and Ochoco Street, on Milport. Upcoming projects include the “Watershed-Wide Event” of cleanup and planting on the first Saturday in March, and another cleanup in August. He spoke of future projects and plans, pointing out that the JCWC celebrated its 20th anniversary last May.

Last to appear was SMILE Vice President Gail Hoffnagle, reporting on the “Portland Centers and Corridors Parking Project Report” (she has been part of that city committee). The committee has been trying to develop a city toolkit for residents to use in addressing parking problems – but nothing is to be foisted on residents; any plan would have to be initiated at the local neighborhood association level. Then 12 contiguous blocks would have to agree; and then at least 50% of residents on those blocks would have to vote in a referendum, and of those, at least 60% would have to approve it, before the city would proceed with the advocated plan. She feels eventually people will not be allowed to park their own cars regularly in front of their own property, but that could be quite a long time off yet. Gail proceeded to discuss issues posed by the opening of the Orange Line MAX rail service, observing that Eastmorelanders are leaving notes on cars parked legally in front of their homes advising MAX riders that they are “supposed” to be parking in Westmoreland, instead. She concluded by discussing permit parking procedures and proposals.

There being no other business on the agenda or offered from the floor, President Stefanick pronounced the meeting adjourned, at 9:02 pm.