

# SMILE BOARD MEETING

February 17, 2016

SMILE Station

Blog

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Procedural

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**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Corinne Stefanick, President; Gail Hoffnagle, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg, Secretary

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elaine O’Keefe; Nanci Champlin, Miriam Erb, Nancy Walsh; Bob Burkholder; David Schoellhamer; Joel Leib, Steve Szigethy

President Stefanick called the meeting to order at 7:35 pm, and began the meeting by asking for self-introductions from all the Board members present, as well as spectators around the room.

Stefanick asked the Board to review the minutes of the January 20 Board meeting; Elaine O’Keefe moved the minutes be approved as presented; Bob Burkholder seconded the motion; the motion carried unanimously.

The only agenda item for this meeting, as requested by some members of the Board, was a discussion of the SMILE budgeting process, and the nature of various expenses and sources of revenue. President Stefanick began the discussion by going through some recent checks to determine who the payables were. SMILE Treasurer Pat Hainley identified them and placed them within the approved budget for reference. He went on to explain our routine expenses – some of which are “bargains” for SMILE, Stefanick agreed. Concern was expressed about ponding of sprinkler water in the lawn on the north side of Oaks Pioneer Church (for which SMILE is the renting agent, and from which SMILE derives considerable of its annual revenue); Stefanick suggested that the Parks Department, which owns the church, should solve that problem.

The discussion turned to the SMILE Balance Sheet. Hainley explained the format used in accounting on this sheet. A man present, later identified as one Jason Ludke, an instructor of Judo at the Sellwood Community Center, said he wanted to review the history of the SMILE Community Center Endowment Fund, and Hainley let him sit at a table near the Board and examine a 3-inch-high stack of account records from the Fund, going back to its inception, as the meeting proceeded.

The discussion turned to SMILE’s profit-and-loss statement. Hainley explained the details on the statement, and compared quarterly and annual results. There followed a wide-ranging discussion of types of activities for which Oaks Pioneer Church and especially SMILE Station could be rented, to expand SMILE rental income.

President Stefanick asked for Board input on our recent Open House. Nancy Walsh responded that we did not find many immediate volunteers for SMILE, but many of the

attendees asked to be informed on community issues, and Nancy is putting together a list from the signup list.

Kim Calame, Director of the Sellwood Community Center, was present. The Center is back on a city budget hit list for the 4<sup>th</sup> or 5<sup>th</sup> time; she urged those interested to “go to budget hearings, and make yourself heard.” She has been at the Center since 2004, and loves the old building, but is excited by the thought of possibly acquiring for an expanded Sellwood Community Center the Westmoreland Boys and Girls Club facility, which is being closed and sold. It was pointed out that developers do want that block; and the Sellwood Community Center as it is now could be reduced to being a satellite of the Mt. Scott Community Center, as has already happened to the Woodstock Community Center – but a decision is still months away.

Calame, speaking of the revenue the city receives from the Sellwood Community Center, said, “We cleared \$450,000 this year with that old building, so we could do even better with the Boys and Girls Club building. But I don’t want to lose the old building, and nobody has talked about closing or demolishing it.” She added that recent Portland Parks labor negotiations have impacted the budget of the Community Center.

David Schoellhamer made a brief announcement about the upcoming Portland Comprehensive Plan testimony opportunities.

Jason Ludke, who had spent much of the meeting examining the financial records of the SMILE Community Center Endowment Fund, and expected to be on the SMILE Community Center Committee under its new Chair, Gail Hoffnagle, was thanked by Hoffnagle for his interest in serving, but she took exception to his publicly quoted statements suggesting that SMILE was somehow misusing the endowment fund, from which no expenditures had even yet been made. Hoffnagle said if he expected to be on the committee, she first wanted an apology from him for these remarks.

Ludke stood up as President Stefanick declared the meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm, and began making loud and indecipherable comments in a brief shouting melee with others in the room; he then gathered up all the financial documents he had been allowed to examine while present, and stormed out of the room with them, into the night.

***POSTSCRIPT:*** Treasurer Pat Hainley went after Ludke in an attempt to recover the documents, but he returned empty-handed – and he then contacted the police over this theft of SMILE financial records. SMILE Secretary Eric Norberg subsequently learned secondhand, and informally, that these records had in fact later been returned to SMILE by Ludke; but SMILE had already received advice from the Portland Office of Neighborhood Involvement that although Ludke had indeed had the right to examine the records under our supervision, such an unauthorized removal of SMILE financial records was an actionable offense. However, after the records were returned, it was unclear if any action against Ludke would be pursued by SMILE at this time.