

# SMILE GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING

April 6, 2016  
SMILE Station

Blog

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Procedural

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

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

President Stefanick called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm, noting the presence of a quorum – although many present had not yet signed the attendance sheet in the back of the room, and were reminded to do so. She then she asked those present to introduce themselves in turn, around the room. After that, she requested a review of the March 2nd General Meeting minutes. After the review, Ed Nunez moved the minutes be approved as submitted, and Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, which passed with evident unanimity.

Stefanick introduced this year’s SMILE Nominating Committee, and reminded that the annual SMILE Board election will be the major part of our May 4<sup>th</sup> SMILE General Public Meeting, and that all four one-year SMILE Officer positions will be up for election, and that four of the eight two-year at-large Board seats will also be up for election, and nominations are being invited. Contact a member of the Nominating Committee or the SMILE office if you are interested in running for a seat. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor before the election on May 4. The election will once again be facilitated by Southeast Uplift.

Nancy Walsh was invited to give a brief report on this year’s “Sundae in the Park”, August 7; the monthly meetings of the ad-hoc Sundae in the Park Committee will begin at 7:30 p.m. next Wednesday evening at SMILE Station, and anyone interested is warmly welcome to attend. The meetings will be at the same time and place on the second Wednesday of the month through July. The free Movie in the Park at dusk this year will be “Jurassic World”.

Valerie Ilustre of the Portland Education Tour Center arose briefly to announce that she is seeking host families for Japanese families who will be in Portland August 4 through August 16. Flyers and information were placed on the table near the door, for those interested.

Rich Cassidy, the PDOT Logistics Organizer and Designer of “Sunday Parkways”, was present to announce that this event will return to the neighborhood again this year, but instead of coming south to Sellwood over the Ross Island Bridge and then returning north, this year it will cross the new Sellwood Bridge and extend north only to south Westmoreland, but will go into the City of Milwaukie before returning across the bridge. The Sellwood Bridge will be closed on October 2<sup>nd</sup> for this event, as well as parts of Highway 224. He presented the proposed route and accepted suggestions for revisions in the route.

David Schoellhamer, Chair of the SMILE Land Use Committee, was next to arise. He revealed that the expanded Comprehensive Plan section in north Westmoreland suggested for retaining high density was not as far-reaching as Marty Stockton had believed and announced, at the last General Meeting – it is no more than was originally proposed by Commissioner Saltzman originally, and David said that he was told by Saltzman’s office that amendment was offered to the landowner in that tract who wanted it simply as a courtesy, and that Saltzman himself was not entirely sure he would even vote for it himself.

Schoellhamer reinforced the previous public announcement that the SMILE Board will meet in a special public session next Monday evening at 7 pm (April 11) at SMILE Station, to hear four new proposed pieces of SMILE testimony concerning Comprehensive Plan offered amendments, which the Board will review and be asked to vote to present as SMILE positions to the City Council.

Schoellhamer went on to show slides outlining the areas that would be affected by the four City Commissioner-offered amendments, as well as defining what the amendments would do, and what the Land Use Committee’s recommended SMILE testimony would be on them. There was a brief question-and-answer period involving interested local residents and Schoellhamer.

There followed a brief announcement by Elizabeth Milner on behalf of Llewellyn Elementary School, seeking one or more local residents to assist with a class curriculum topic involving pollination. Gail Hoffnagle suggested that the National Wildlife Federation might be of assistance.

Vice President Gail Hoffnagle was next to take the floor – first, representing the SMILE ad-hoc Disaster Preparedness Committee. She said we received a grant last year to help present preparedness seminars for fifty blocks in the neighborhood, and did. We received another grant this year to explore the subject in more depth, and also to have additional classes.

Next, representing the ad-hoc SMILE Friends of Sellwood Community Center Committee, of which she is Chair, Hoffnagle announced that for the sixth time in ten years, the Sellwood Community Center is again threatened by city budget cutbacks. Last night, at the first of two city hearings on the city budget, she and Nancy Walsh were present, and made a good point or two about Portland’s small community centers in the context of the Comprehensive Plan’s goal of “walkable neighborhoods”. There will be another meeting next Tuesday; “what works is a lot of people showing up, identifiably. It really makes a difference.” She pointed out that the Sellwood Community Center has more participation per square foot than any other community center in the city, of any size – and our Center brings in considerably more revenue than it costs to run it, in the city budget.

Nanci Champlin made a quick report for the “S.N.A.C.” committee. There are plans for volunteers to do maintenance at the Oaks Bottom Overlook pocket park, at Bybee and 13<sup>th</sup>. She discussed the Springwater Corridor “Sellwood Gap”, and reported that paving of the unfinished parts of the trail, Marion to Linn Streets, will happen in a couple of months.

The meeting closed with a few community announcements, after which President Corinne Stefanick announced the meeting as being adjourned, at 8:54 p.m.