

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

April 20, 2016
SMILE Station

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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; David Schoellhamer; Steve Szigethy

President Stefanick called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm, and began the meeting by asking for self-introductions from all the Board members present, as well as the spectators around the room. She reminded those present of the SMILE-sponsored annual neighborhood cleanup, on May 21st in the south-end parking lot at Westmoreland Park.

Stefanick asked the Board to review the minutes of the March 16 Board meeting, as well as of the April 11 Special Board Meeting. Pat Hainley moved, and Miriam Erb seconded, that both sets of minutes be approved as submitted; the motion carried unanimously.

The first agenda item concerning a north Westmoreland Homeless Resources Shelter and Center, to be located in which recently has been the St. Vincent DePaul building at S.E. Milwaukie Avenue at Mitchell Street, across from the Springwater Trail access path and parking lot for Westmoreland and Brooklyn – just south of the McLoughlin Boulevard overcrossing.

Appearing for Multnomah County, which is the organization that bought the building and is developing the shelter and center, were Multnomah County Commissioner Deborah Kafoury, and Stacy Burke from the nonprofit organization “A Home for Everyone”.

Kafoury confirmed that the building at 5210 S.E. Milwaukie, at one time home to an olive oil business, had been bought the previous week by the county for this purpose. She said that there currently are 1,800 people sleeping on the streets in Multnomah County, of which at least 500 are women. Through “A Home for Everyone” the county is hoping to reduce the size of this problem; Multnomah County is budgeting \$10 million to address this problem, and will have several such centers around the county; the City of Portland is budgeting \$20 million for the same problem within the city limits. “We need 600 beds around town, and this location will participate.” Stacy Burke went on to elaborate further.

Kafoury told the Board that, with the building bought only last week, she was present to do the first outreach to the neighborhood. The new shelter and services should assist the homeless now camping in the neighborhood to start transitioning into housing. “Join” is spreading the word in the homeless community, and police officers are helping with this too. There followed a question and answer period involving the Board on the details of the plan: There has not been much shelter available for homeless couples; they are included in this

outreach... Women and couples have the greatest need at present... The facility will open in the late summer or early fall... Multnomah County is contracting with nonprofits to operate the facilities... 100 beds of transitional housing is expected, plus services provided.

Charles Letherwood was scheduled to present to the Board seeking support for the need by Tom Dwyer Automotive to continue to use parking spaces on city-owned property near the east end of the Sellwood Bridge; but he postponed, as talks are still underway with the city.

Nancy Walsh reported for the Nominations Committee. One Board candidate has been identified, and more are being sought. The candidate in question, Timothy DuBois, was at the meeting and spoke briefly of his own interest in running for a Board seat; he lives in North Westmoreland and is studying “community planning” at present. Nominations for Board seats can be made before the election at the SMILE General Public Mtg. on May 4.

David Schoellhamer, Chair of the SMILE Land Use Committee, was next on the agenda, presenting on a new draft of Mixed-Use Zoning categories in Sellwood and Westmoreland. He showed diagrams of the proposed changes from CM2 to CM1 designations in both districts, and said that testimony is now being accepted through May 14, and the Land Use Committee met today to discuss that; Ms. Marty Stockton from the city has already told of major changes. The change in designation in specified locations would reduce the maximum number of stories of structures within them from four to three stories. Milwaukie at Bybee in Westmoreland is one such area; 13th from Nehalem to Harney in Sellwood is the other.

Schoellhamer said “we need directions from the Board on what to do.” The Land Use Committee, he said, was surprised the city is proposing to downzone this much – but he is not personally convinced that this downzoning will actually happen. Steve Szigethy commented that he would like to see more historic preservation than downzoning, but Schoellhamer said that the Comprehensive Plan process does not lend itself to that. The Board seemed to feel that if we don’t support this proposal, we more or less tell the city that we do not want any further downzoning, which might not be a desirable message to send.

Eric Norberg moved, and Pat Hainley seconded, that SMILE accept this new CM1 proposal from the Mixed Use Plan Project. 9 votes yes, 1 vote no. The motion carried.

Elaine O’Keefe moved that SMILE add to this testimony, just approved, a recommendation by the Board that the proposed CM1-designated boundary be extended north to Malden, instead of to Nehalem Street. 8 votes yes, 1 vote no, 1 abstention. The motion carried.

Schoellhamer then presented a second issue from the Land Use Committee: The matter of a Design Overlay was ignored in the latest proposal; the Committee recommends the Board resubmit previous testimony in favor of a Design Overlay. Steve Szigethy moved the SMILE Board do so; Gail Hoffnagle seconded the motion; motion carried, 10 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain.

Nanci Champlin gave a brief report on the SMILE Station rain garden; and Pat Hainley briefed the Board on the 3 bids received to replace the failed SMILE Station heat pumps.

Pat Hainley moved adjournment; Steve Szigethy seconded; carried unanimously at 9:35 pm.