

# SMILE GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING

June 1, 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:** Nancy Walsh; Elaine O’Keefe; Tim DuBois; Joel Leib;  
Bob Burkholder

President Stefanick called the meeting to order at 7:32 pm, asking for a show of hands by those who qualify as SMILE members (by property ownership, personal residence, and/or business representation, in Sellwood and Westmoreland); the number met the quorum requirement of 20. She then asked those present to introduce themselves, in turn, around the room. After that, she requested a review of the May 4th General Meeting minutes. Following the review, Elaine O’Keefe moved that the minutes be approved as submitted, and Emily Pinkstaff seconded the motion, which passed with nineteen yea votes and one abstention.

President Stefanick took a moment to welcome Tim DuBois to the Board; he was elected as a new at-large Board member in our annual May election last month. She inquired how he pronounces his last name; it’s “Du Boys”, rather than the French pronunciation. Tim lives on S.E. Insley Street in north Westmoreland.

Stefanick introduced Nancy Walsh for a report on the three committees she heads: The Sundae in the Park, SMILE Station, and Church Committees. For Sundae in the Park – which will be all day on Sunday, August 7, this year – she detailed the entertainment lineup, and the plans for the day. The next meeting of the committee is June 8, and all are welcome to attend and participate. Concerning the SMILE Station Committee, Nancy reported that the new heat pump system has been installed and is working; it will have its first test this weekend, when temperatures are expected to soar close to 100 degrees. And as regards the Church Committee, which oversees our rentals and maintenance of the Oaks Pioneer Church on S.E. Spokane Street near the east end of the Sellwood Bridge, the bookings have not been bad at all, and they should go up in August.

Next to appear was Kris Heiberg, who reported on this year’s neighborhood cleanup in the south-end parking lot of Westmoreland Park on May 21. The volunteer monitors had to check every load this year for banned construction debris – anything that might contain asbestos – to avoid a huge fine from Metro. We filled seventeen 30-yard drop boxes with debris this year. It was a success.

Gail Hoffnagle was next, arising first to report on the Friends of Sellwood Community Center (a SMILE Committee, which she chairs): The Center avoided yet another city budget

chopping block again this year; the committee is hoping to do some fundraising to make needed repairs and upgrades to the Community Center Building.

Then, with Bob Burkholder, Hoffnagle went on to speak about the SMILE Disaster Preparedness Committee, which Burkholder chairs. A new grant has been received from Southeast Uplift to underwrite four workshops on aspects of emergency preparedness; the first two of these workshops will occur in consecutive weeks – June 18 and June 25 – at SMILE Station. Gail explained what will be covered at each workshop, and commented that details of these are included in the “SMILE newsletter”, in the June BEE.

There being nothing more on the agenda, and with time remaining, an open discussion followed. Matt Hainley opened the discussion by detailing for those unaware of the history of SMILE just how the neighborhood association came to own the vacant former fire station, now known as SMILE Station, after the Boys and Girls Club moved out in the late 1980's. SMILE just last month made the final payment on the mortgage, and now owns the building free and clear, although there is a deed restriction in the sale which prevents its sale to anyone but the City of Portland should SMILE for any reason dissolve or divest.

Bob Burkholder reported that Dick Samuels, owner of the local short railroad line, has made a deal to move his tracks between S.E. 13<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> in order to “close the Sellwood Gap” of the Springwater Trail. Burkholder, a resident of Garthwick, said that other realignments are coming to, or adjacent to, the Garthwick community at the south end of Sellwood, which are causing some controversy. The discussion period ended with some Q and A.

Tim DuBois, observing that nothing remained on the agenda to address, moved that the meeting be adjourned; Matt Hainley and Kris Heiberg simultaneously seconded the motion – which then carried with evident unanimity at 8:52 pm.