

# SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

November 16, 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; Timothy DuBois; Steve Szigethy;

Nancy Walsh; Miriam Erb; Bob Burkholder; Joel Leib; Elizabeth Milner

President Stefanick called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m., inviting self-introductions from Board members, as well as those present in the room to attend the meeting. She next asked the Board to review the minutes of the October 19 Board meeting; Elaine O’Keefe moved the minutes be approved as submitted, and Bob Burkholder seconded; the motion passed with eleven yes votes and one abstention.

The next item on the agenda was presented by Joel Leib – a report on the progress of the installation of the Old Sellwood Bridge railing segment in front of SMILE Station. It is now in place, but some finishing and sealing is still needed; a bronze plaque is being made and will be installed on it shortly. There will be temporary landscaping planted around it soon, with the final landscaping to be done in the spring. An official “unveiling” is expected in January or early February. Leib thanked the Board, as well as Matt Hainley, Bruce and Kris Heiberg, Rachel Ginocchio, and Don Bolton, “among many others”.

Matt Hainley was next to speak, as he approached the Board to approve an agreement with a private property owner for use of a smaller spruce tree on their property as the new “SMILE Christmas Tree”. He recounted the history of SMILE presenting such a tree: It started with a local resident, Dent Thomas, who started lighting a large tree on his property. When city restrictions ended that, SMILE began lighting the large tree at what is now the Oaks Bottom Overlook pocket park on the 13th-Bybee curve at Wilhelm’s Portland Memorial, which it has done each year since, through this past January.

The old tree is not in good shape and appears to be somewhat unsafe to climb, and the proposal is that we move our Holiday lighting to the privately owned tree near Beeson Chiropractic, one block south of the old tree, on S.E. 13<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The owner of that property is agreeable to this proposal, but wanted proof of insurance, which our insurance agent, Doug Menely, was able provide in the form of a certificate. An agreement then was written, and is now offered to the SMILE Board for approval. Electrical service is to be installed at the new tree tomorrow, and the installation of the lights for this year is planned for November 26, two days after Thanksgiving. Gail Hoffnagle made a motion that the Board accept the agreement; Eric Norberg seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Miriam Erb appeared on behalf of the SMILE Land Use Committee, of which she is a member, to present two letters – offered for Board approval, and transmission to the city –

by the Land Use Committee. The first is in support of extending the Design Overlay to Mixed Use Zones (which she remarked is a matter also supported by the city). There was a brief explanation of the letter and its purpose, and then discussion. Elaine O'Keefe made a motion that SMILE adopt and send the letter; Corrine Stefanick seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

The second letter concerns amendments 51 and 34 of the on-street parking regulations. The Land Use Committee argued that there should be a city parking plan AND a traffic management plan BEFORE any further parking requirements of developers be eliminated, so SMILE is asked to support amendment 51 and oppose amendment 34. Eric Norberg made a motion that SMILE adopt and send the letter; the motion was seconded by Pat Hainley, and the question was called. The motion carried with ten yes votes and two abstentions.

Pat Hainley then was granted, by the agenda, the rest of the meeting for a discussion of the new fiscal year SMILE budget (the fiscal year begins October 1st) which he had prepared, intended to lead to a vote of approval by the Board. Before that discussion could proceed, however, Elizabeth Milner interceded to make a motion that the Board approve the full amount she had submitted in her budget request for the maintenance of the Sellwood Gap open space that SMILE is creating at S.E. 9th and Linn, which was intended to be \$800 a year for five years. She explained that she wanted to be sure of adequate funding for maintenance of the parkland in the block before installation began on the plan previously developed over more than a year of public open houses and ultimately approved by the Board and partially funded by a Metro grant. After some discussion, Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, and the discussion continued for some time until the question was called. The vote was eleven in favor, and one abstention. The motion passed.

President Stefanick then brought up the annual Communications Stipend from Southeast Uplift and initiated a discussion of the possible alternatives for its use. It is given specifically for making a neighborhood newsletter available in each neighborhood, and in our case it has been used to partially fund the half-page newsletter that has appeared monthly in THE BEE for the past quarter century. Due to the length of time it has appeared in the paper, the price we pay for it is substantially below the lowest nonprofit rate in the newspaper, and the usual fixed placement fee is waived. Ultimately no changes were proposed at this time as the discussion ended, but there was some discussion of alternatively pursuing a "small grant" opportunity from Southeast Uplift for expanding our community outreach.

Pat Hainley then briefly discussed the "revenue enhancements" the SMILE Financial Committee had discussed at its recent meeting, none of which were reflected in his proposed budget at this time. Eric Norberg moved that the proposed budget for the new SMILE fiscal year be adopted; and Miriam Erb and Tim DuBois simultaneously seconded the motion, which then passed unanimously.

There being no other business on the agenda or offered from the floor, Steve Szigethy moved the meeting be adjourned, and Nancy Walsh seconded the motion – which appeared to carry with no objection, at 9:10 p.m., as the room rapidly cleared.