

SMILE General Public Meeting minutes

March 1, 2017
SMILE Station

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Procedural

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Joel Leib; Elaine O’Keefe; Nancy Walsh, Bob Burkholder; Timothy DuBois; Elizabeth Milner

President Corinne Stefanick called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m., and asked those present to introduce themselves, around the room. With a quorum being present, she asked that the minutes of the February 1 General Meeting be reviewed for approval. Vikki DeGaa requested a correction in the spelling of her first name. Gail Hoffnagle then moved the minutes be approved as thus amended, and Elaine O’Keefe seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Stefanick introduced Lannie Kali, Manager of the Moreland Farmers Market, for an update on the Market following Michael Ashe’s announcement at the February SMILE General Meeting that the south parking lot of Wilhelm’s Portland Memorial had been sold – the location on which the Market has operated in recent years.

Kali confirmed Ashe’s assurance a month ago that the Market will remain on the same lot this year, since its new owners will not be doing any development of the lot in the immediate future; but next year it will have to be at a new location, not yet determined. Kali is pursuing the use of the south parking lot at Westmoreland Park for the Wednesday afternoon in-season nonprofit Market, but so far has not found the Parks Department receptive to the idea.

She said she is pointing out to Parks that the nonprofit has many unique and beneficial distinctions, not only locally but statewide, which she discussed in detail, and which she thinks should justify the use of the space in the park. However, she is open to suggestions of other suitable places for the Market in 2018 if she is unable to persuade the Parks Department to allow the use of the south end of Westmoreland Park.

Next to appear – and the only remaining agenda item – was Teri Poppino, Crime Prevention Coordinator in Portland’s Office of Neighborhood Involvement (ONI), who presented news and tips regarding aspects of crime prevention. She told us we have a new Neighborhood Response Team (NRT) Police Officer – Shaun Sahli, whose direct phone line is 503/823-0076, and e-mail is: shaun.sahli@portlandoregon.gov. Teri also invited personal contact with her from anyone seeking her advice or information – her telephone number is 503/823-0540, and e-mail is: teri.poppino@portlandoregon.gov.

Neighborhood Watch was mentioned and discussed at some length; Mark Wells at ONI is the Community Coordinator for Neighborhood Watch; President Stefanick has had his training, and would like to reactivate dormant Neighborhood Watches in the neighborhood, and asked those interested to stay after the meeting and chat with her about it. Teri remarked that online forums such as "NextDoor" have unsubstantiated and subjective information and crime information, and should be taken with a grain of salt. If you have questions about crime, please feel free to contact Teri directly.

She reminded residents that if any crime is committed against them, even minor ones, they should be reported; if they are not reported, police won't know about them, and police patrols and activities are assigned based upon known crimes. In-progress crimes and emergencies should be reported to 9-1-1; "cold" and minor crimes should be reported to "Police Non-Emergency" at 503/823-3333. If you get put on hold, please remain on the line until the operator can get to you. If the operator (who is not with the police department) tries to talk you out of reporting something minor, persist and do so anyway. The Police want to know about all crimes. (But there are online reporting options.)

Teri went on to give valuable information on reporting crimes; terminology for types of crimes; arrest procedures; the value of Neighborhood Watch and N.E.T. crossover membership; asking the Precinct for additional patrols for a week (Central Precinct desk: 503/823-0097); smart phone applications useful for reporting; and police patrol scheduling. She left a number of informative crime prevention flyers on the table near the front door of SMILE Station for interested residents to take with them as they leave the meeting. (These flyers are incorporated into these minutes by reference.)

President Stefanick concluded the meeting by reminding of the upcoming Board election on May 3; at least four Board seats and all four Officer positions are open. Board Member Tim DuBois heads our Nominating Committee this year.

There being no other business on the agenda or offered from the floor, Eric Norberg moved the meeting be adjourned; Bob Burkholder seconded the motion. The motion carried with evident unanimity at 9:02 p.m.