

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

June 21, 2016
SMILE Station

Website

www.SellwoodMoreland.org

<<>>

Procedural

www.SMILErecords.org

OFFICERS PRESENT: Joel Leib, President; Gail Hoffnagle, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Timothy DuBois; Elizabeth Milner; Miriam Erb
Bob Burkholder; Elaine O’Keefe; Kevin Palmer

President Joel Leib called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m., asking the members of the Board and the meeting’s guests to introduce themselves. He next asked the Board to review the minutes of the May 17 Board Meeting. Pat Hainley made a motion that the minutes be approved as submitted, and Miriam Erb seconded; the motion carried unanimously.

Elizabeth Milner was first on the agenda – and said that there is not a great deal further to report on the local effort to protect the small forested plot between the Portland Memorial Mausoleum and Llewellyn Elementary School in Westmoreland. There is no potential “angel” to buy and preserve it at this point; Metro is not interested. Gail has expressed the idea of having a Community Garden there, but there is nothing definite on that yet. Elizabeth suggested that overcrowded Llewellyn Elementary School might eventually want to expand southward somewhat, but she added that Portland Public Schools is not likely to spend \$2 million to buy it. Pat Hainley observed that initial taxes could slam the buyer, also. President Joel Leib suggested a fallback position could be to try to preserve the northern 25% of the property, rather than none of it at all. It has been on the market for awhile.

Kris Heiberg of Heiberg Garbage and Recycling, a former SMILE President, and the longtime director of the neighborhood cleanup in May each year, stood to report, of this year’s cleanup, “Looks like we’ll clear around \$1,000 from the neighborhood cleanup this year.” This is the oldest such neighborhood cleanup in the State of Oregon, Pat pointed out. Kris discussed an issue that arose with a volunteer at the cleanup this year, and she is trying to resolve it. The board found the volunteer’s problem to be “irresponsible and inexcusable”, and completely supported Kris’ efforts to resolve it. Kris added that she would like to train someone to succeed her in running the cleanup; planning for the event next year will start in February. (Nancy Walsh similarly is trying to find someone to succeed herself in running Sundae in the Park. Both women want someone to “shadow” them for a year to learn the ropes; both have full written documentation of everything the next person in that role would need to know and do.)

President Leib next gave an update on the sidewalk repairs needed near our north-side driveway at SMILE Station. They will be done as part of a package including installing a concrete pad for the city-donated bike racks on our north parking strip, west of the driveway

– and installing a new path from the west sidewalk across our front lawn to an observation point in front of the old Sellwood Bridge railing remnant on display in front of our flagpole. A color choice needs to be made for the pavers that will constitute that path across the lawn. He sought Board input on whether the bike rack should be centered in the parking strip, or should be offset against the curb, leaving a larger grass strip between the bike rack pad and the sidewalk. No conclusive decision. The project may begin as early as next week.

Pat Hainley reported to the Board that we need to replace our other heat pump (the one for the basement); their normal life is 15 years, and this one has lasted 22 years, so this is not unexpected. He is getting bids now. The first bid received was for \$7,000. The upstairs heat pump we recently installed is working fine.

Bob Burkholder reported on our Golf Junction “pocket park”. Dick Samuels, owner of the nearby local railroad line, is storing ties and rails on a portion of the property we leased from Union Pacific; it is possible he does not know he is on our land. The Board discussed options as to how to get the rails and ties moved from our land. A popular option seemed to be to show Dick the map of the property we are leasing from U.P., and ask him to move them off.

The last item of business was offered by Miriam Erb – a discussion of our Land Use Committee’s letter to Rep. Karin Power on the subject of Oregon House Bill 2007. The letter was submitted to the Board for consideration, in opposition of the bill as it now stands. Much discussion followed about HB 2007’s attempt to legislate housing rules throughout the state, with comments both pro and con, by Board members and persons in the audience. This bill would preempt Portland City rules – including those in the Comprehensive Plan – some argued, and did not result from a collaborative process.

Since some Board members were focusing on the letter’s apparent opposition to unlimited duplexes, which they themselves support, an audience member suggested any reference to duplexes be deleted from the letter, and Eric Norberg made a motion to submit the letter to Rep. Power from the Board, deleting any reference to duplexes. Gail Hoffnagle seconded the motion. The motion was defeated 4 to 6.

Keith Palmer made a motion that the Board delay a decision; the motion failed for want of a second. Discussion followed about having a “Special Board Meeting” a week from tonight, on this one subject, to consider a revised letter – at 7:30 p.m. on June 28, at SMILE Station. President Leib then officially called such a Special Board Meeting, and directed that the Bylaws-mandated notice of the meeting be made starting later this evening, via website and other electronic means, supplemented by adding written notice of the meeting as soon as possible.

All paperwork and supplementary written material on this issue is included in these minutes by reference, and are placed with the official copy of the SMILE Minutes for reference use.

There being no other matters offered from the floor or on the agenda, Kevin Palmer moved the meeting be adjourned, and Pat Hainley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously, and the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.