

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

December 20, 2017

SMILE Station

Main 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: Elizabeth Milner, Bob Burkholder, Elaine O’Keefe, Brian Bawol, Tim DuBois

President Joel Leib called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., asking those present to introduce themselves, around the room. He then asked the Board to review the minutes of the November 15th Board Meeting. With a few corrections noted, Pat Hainley moved the minutes be approved as amended, and Gail Hoffnagle seconded; passed unanimously.

Scott Kelly, SMILE Transportation Committee Chair, was first on the agenda, and he recounted this year’s sequence of events as PBOT, primarily in the person of Rich Newlands, engaged with the committee on the cut-through and congested traffic problems on and around Tacoma Street in commute hours. Rich attended a March 22 committee meeting and heard input on Tacoma traffic congestion. PBOT gathered data on the issue last May. Newlands presented that data, plus historic information, at a special Transportation Committee meeting in August, where he heard and made note of more local input. The September Transportation Committee meeting received two options from PBOT, which were deliberated and discussed. Last week the committee met again with Rich Newlands, accompanied by Jamie Jeffrey of PBOT, who cautioned that we should keep in mind that any option chosen could have unintended consequences.

Scott said he would return at the January SMILE Board Meeting on January 17 for Board approval of the committee’s recommended choice of direction in the options available. In the meantime, he said, PBOT “will pursue their Tier One options continuously until they get it right.” Basically, thus, it’s only the Tier Two options which will be presented for SMILE recommendations. Kelly’s presentation ended with a discussion of the Tier Two options, included in these minutes in the form of a graphic matrix distributed at the meeting.

Next to appear was Brian Balia, Chair of the Foster-Powell Neighborhood Association, accompanied by the Assistant Chair, named Eric. They were present to discuss with the SMILE Board a proposed Multnomah County Homeless Shelter to be sited on S.E. Foster Road at 61st, which is described by the county to be essentially the same service as is currently offered at the Willamette Shelter on S.E. Milwaukie Avenue at Mitchell Street in north Westmoreland. He wanted SMILE’s take on any problems, or lack of them, our neighborhood has experienced from the Willamette shelter. President Joel Leib had invited representatives of the Willamette shelter to be present, to be included in the conversation: Shaynna Hobson, the center’s Manager, and Matt Oyeon, Head of Shelter Services (Oyeon mentioned that he is a resident of the Foster-Powell neighborhood himself).

Hobson and Oyeon confirmed that the Foster-Powell shelter will have the same criteria and restrictions as, and will essentially be run the same way as, the Willamette shelter in Westmoreland – although it will have somewhat larger capacity. It will be reservation-only with no walkups accepted, it will concentrate on serving women and couples; there will be strict rules for those staying in it, with services provided being: Free showers, lockers, beds, and dining, and also job assistance, rehoming assistance, and Internet and financial services.

The subsequent SMILE Board feedback on the Willamette shelter's operation was almost entirely positive; those on the Board living near it said that there had been no impact on the surrounding community from its operation, which is adjacent to apartments and just a block from a large facility devoted to youth. Elaine O'Keefe suggested that the Foster-Powell Board arrange to have a tour of the Willamette shelter. There was further Q and A between the Foster-Powell representatives and the Willamette shelter representatives.

Pat Hainley, who is preparing the SMILE budget, asked the Board for guidance on whether he should include a small raise for the part-timers who work for us at the Oaks Pioneer Church and at SMILE Station. He proposed a \$2 per hour increase, from \$12 per hour to \$14 per hour. The Board seemed supportive of that idea, and also of a small raise for Lorraine Fyre as the Manager of both facilities. Pat thanked the Board for its guidance.

Next on the agenda was Anais Tuepker of the Brooklyn neighborhood, who represents a group called "350 PDX" which is trying to get a measure on the ballot in an upcoming election to add a 1% "gross receipts tax" in the City of Portland on large retailers with at least \$500,000 in annual gross receipts, to be added to their 2% business license fee. The proposed draft of the measure has not yet been completed, but Tuepker said that if SMILE were to vote tonight to endorse this measure, but changed its mind after reading the final draft of the planned measure, "350 PDX" would honor a request to remove the endorsement from its literature. Several neighborhood associations are reported to have already endorsed the proposed measure.

Board members asked clarifying questions, and expressed opinions at considerable length; there was some concern over why the measure targets only retailers, and not manufacturing and industrial businesses that otherwise would also qualify to be included. The sense of the Board, as articulated by President Joel Leib, was to postpone a vote on any endorsement of the ballot measure proposed, and to invite Tuepker to keep the Board informed.

Lastly, the ad-hoc Friends of Moreland Woods Committee, represented by Elizabeth Milner and former SMILE President Corinne Stefanick, sought the Board to approve a Memorandum of Understanding, as outlined and informally approved at the last SMILE Board meeting, to be an ad-hoc SMILE committee, and thus to be able to have SMILE accept contributions earmarked for the committee on a tax-deductible basis, via SMILE's 501c3 status. The Board made sure this written agreement mirrored the one informally approved in November, and then Elaine O'Keefe moved the Board accept the Letter of Approval, Brian Bawol seconded the motion, and the motion carried unanimously.

Pat Hainley then moved adjournment, and Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, which passed unanimously at 9:22 p.m.