

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

April 18, 2018
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: Bob Burkholder, Elaine O’Keefe, Miriam Erb, Kevin Palmer, Elizabeth Milner, Kim Borcharding, Brian Bawol

President Joel Leib had a conflict which prevented him from arriving in time for the start of the meeting (he arrived later), so Vice President Gail Hoffnagle called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., asking those present to introduce themselves, around the room. She then asked the Board to review the minutes of the March 21st Board Meeting. There was a request for a clarifying sentence to make clear the sources of reimbursement funds Gail had requested as a result of the campaign to keep PP&R from closing the Sellwood and Woodstock Community Centers. Bob Burkholder then moved the minutes be approved as amended, and Miriam Erb seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Past SMILE President Kris Heiberg was present on behalf of the SMILE Neighborhood Cleanup, this year on May 19 at Westmoreland Park, which she has Chaired for many years. She distributed flyers for it around the room, and then reminded the Board that SMILE needs permits for three in-park events each year, and has only been able to obtain free use for two – the Cleanup, and Sundae in the Park. The SMILE Easter Egg Hunt at Westmoreland Park on the day before Easter would have required its own permit costing hundreds of dollars (for a five-minute-long event!), but last year the Reed Neighborhood Association gave us their “free pass for one park event” for it, and this year the Eastmoreland Neighborhood Association did the same for us. SMILE thanks both for their neighborliness. She pointed out that each year, we need to arrange that in advance, if we are to avoid a very expensive permit for this sort event.

Miriam Erb, who is retiring from the Board in May, agreed to join and Chair the SMILE Election Committee to develop a slate for next month’s election – and reported that, with a month to go, there are six nominees for five at-large Board seats. One of the Board seats will have a one-year term, to complete the term of Brian Bawol who is having to resign his Board seat, for a year on business elsewhere. Our four Officer positions are open, and have one-year terms. All four Officers are running for re-election, but anyone interested can run for one of these seats too. The election will be at the May 2 General meeting, and more nominations will be accepted before the vote takes place at that meeting.

David Schoellhamer, SMILE Land Use Committee Chair, next presented in detail to the Board two letters to the city, which his committee requests the Board formally adopt and

send. He first presented the shorter letter, on the subject of the Neighborhood Contact Code Update Project. David said the committee had conducted 19 “contact” meetings with developers seeking to build in our neighborhood in the last three years; the proposed city change would eliminate the need for most of those, and replace them simply with a posted sign at the property. The neighborhood can have constructive input on projects in a “contact” meeting, but cannot interact with a posted sign, he pointed out. David explained the issue and the point of the letter. Pat Hainley moved to approve and adopt the letter; Kevin Palmer seconded; the motion passed unanimously.

Next, David presented, with on-screen documentation, the proposed comment letter on the latest proposals for the city’s “Residential Infill Project”. Eleven specific comments were in the letter, plus several more brief additional comments. Comment #4 was the subject of some contention on the Board, but eventually was amended to the Board’s satisfaction.

There followed some clarifying discussion on the third paragraph of comment #7; there was extensive debate over the wording, which was revised to the satisfaction of the Board. Eric Norberg then moved this letter be adopted and sent as amended; Bob Burkholder seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously. The Board warmly commended David and his committee for their excellent work – on these letters, and everything else they have handled.

Leslie Pohl Kosbau from the Hillsdale neighborhood was present to discuss Portland Community Gardens, for which the city has proposed to reduce funding in many cases, based upon gentrification assumptions which are often incorrect – many garden users, wherever they may live, are retired and have limited resources, she pointed out. Now the city is proposing a 40% surcharge on users of Community Gardens plots in Sellwood and eight other city locations. (The charge currently is \$400 a year for a 400 square foot plot, plus six volunteer hours each year in the garden Common Area.) This increase follows an increase made last year, Kosbau said; and she wanted SMILE to approve a letter protesting the increased surcharge. She read the proposed letter to the Board. Elaine O’Keefe moved SMILE adopt and send that letter; Kevin Palmer seconded; the motion passed with one abstention.

Vicki DeGaa and Brian Bawol were last on the agenda, presenting a proposal for SMILE to buy a ceiling-mounted computer projector, install a side terminal on the south side of the meeting room for it, and install a new and wider screen than the present one in SMILE Station. The estimated cost was stated as \$1,910.79. The pair gave a detailed explanation, and there was discussion involving the Board. Some Board members felt “audio system capability” should be added also. Kim Borcharding moved, and Elizabeth Milner seconded, approving this proposal and budget. There were ten “yes” votes and no “no” votes; Eric Norberg recused himself from the vote, as the President of the Association of Home Businesses, which rents SMILE Station for its monthly meeting, and is owner of the computer projector which SMILE has been using without charge (with AHB’s permission and approval) for quite some time. The motion carried.

With that, Bob Burkholder moved, and Elaine O’Keefe seconded, adjourning the meeting. The motion carried unanimously at 9:23 p.m.