

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

September 19, 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, Julie Currin, Tyler Janzen, Kevin Palmer, Elizabeth Milner, Simon Fulford, Kim Borcharding

President Joel Leib called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., asking everyone present to introduce themselves, around the room. He then asked the Board to review the minutes of the August 15 Board Meeting. In the course of the review of the minutes, Board Members requested a clarified and more detailed version of Scott Kelly’s Transportation Committee Report concerning the possibility of speed bumps west of S.E. 13th and north of Tacoma Street. With no other changes requested, Kevin Palmer moved the minutes be approved as amended, and Simon Fulford seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

First on the evening’s agenda was Pamela Gorder from the Lutheran Church at 15th and Lambert in Sellwood, who reported that the church’s Conference Center Annex will be reconstructed, and the church seeks community input on “what they’d like to see there.” It will then be able to accommodate community events; it’s a huge room and will be made more “accessible”.

R. Corless, Chair of the SMILE Crime Prevention Committee, next updated the Board on what the committee has been doing. It has facilitated eight new Neighborhood Watches, and she communicates with Mark Wells of the City of Portland Crime Prevention office on this. She herself communicates with our N.R.T. Officer on crime issues, and she has also communicated with two parole officers concerning local residents of interest; the parole officers have help to “restrict” two troublesome ex-felons from the neighborhood for a year. There are two homeless camps at present, she said – at Johnson Creek Park on S.E. 21st; and at Tenino at 17th. Simon Fulford suggested the committee offer crime prevention information to the public. Simon said he was willing to be the Board Liaison on the Crime Prevention Committee, and Gail Hoffnagle moved he become such, and Kim Borcharding seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

In Nancy Walsh’s absence, Eric Norberg and Gail Hoffnagle reported on the Sundae in the Park Committee. Kim Borcharding said she is willing to join that committee next year, and would be willing to Chair the event when she has more time sometime in the future. Julie Currin also volunteered for the committee next year.

Six “Pickeball” players were present (none apparently neighborhood residents) to pursue the previously reported suggestion that one tennis court in Sellwood Park be converted to four public Pickleball Courts – while fixing up its twin to be a really nice tennis court.

Meantime, Eric Miller was present to advocate for the remaining two tennis courts – both in an advanced state of disrepair, located near the park’s swimming pool – to be converted for Futsal use. Both groups appeared not to object to each other’s plan, see no conflicts, and hope to approach the city with their separate plans – and both hope for SMILE’s official support for them when they propose them to PP&R. Both believe they have the needed funding to get the outlined work done; the Pickleball group has already raised \$15,000 for their part of the project, and Miller believes the Portland Timbers are interested in making a gift of a Futsal facility to PP&R in Sellwood Park. (The proposed four Pickleball Courts would be the only public Pickleball Courts in the City of Portland, said the Pickleball advocates.)

Most Board Members appeared favorable to the combined proposal, and it appeared a motion to support this plan may have had majority (although not unanimous) support. However, there followed some discussion about it being helpful to have more usage statistics about the three sports before taking a vote, and it was eventually decided by President Leib to wait to take a vote about writing a letter of support from SMILE until the October Board Meeting, to see if further documentation on usage could be obtained.

However, Leib said he believed that there was an urgent need for Eric Miller to have some official validation of the Futsal proposal from SMILE earlier than next month, so Gail Hoffnagle moved SMILE go on record “in support of the idea of Futsal play in neighborhood parks”, but with no letter of endorsement to be written at this time. Elaine O’Keefe seconded the motion. The motion carried – with 9 yes votes, no “no” votes, and 3 abstentions.

Last on the agenda for the evening was Christina Timberlake, recently hired as the part-time Oaks Pioneer Church Marketing expert. She has been enhancing the Oaks Pioneer Church website to optimize it for searches, and presented a breakdown of how visitors find the church website. Visits have doubled, and so have bookings, she said. She passed out a detailed written report (which is incorporated into these minutes by reference), and discussed it in considerable detail. She is seeking funds to further develop the assignment to improve bookings at the church, and Pat Hainley said the funds she is seeking are available, and he was supportive of her recommendations. She went on to engage in an extensive discussion with Board Members on the points in her written report.

President Leib said he is planning a Special Board Meeting to continue the discussion on this topic on October 17, 5:30-7:15 p.m., at SMILE Station, intending it to be an Executive Session to discuss matters meeting the criteria in our ByLaws for an Executive Session, just prior to the actual October Board Meeting that evening at 7:30 p.m. It was unclear whether that Special Board Meeting had now officially been declared, or if Leib was just checking the availability of Board Members to attend one at that late afternoon time and date. If and when it becomes an official announcement, it will be posted on the SMILE websites and publicly, in accordance with SMILE ByLaws.

With that, Kevin Palmer moved the meeting be adjourned, and Pat Hainley seconded the motion, which passed with evident unanimity exactly one hour after the previously-scheduled 9 p.m. time of adjournment – at 10:00 p.m.