

# SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

July 17, 2019  
SMILE Station

Main Website

[www.SellwoodMoreland.org](http://www.SellwoodMoreland.org)

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Procedural

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**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Simon Fulford, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer;  
Eric Norberg, Secretary

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elaine O’Keefe, Gail Hoffnagle, Julie Currin,  
Rhea Smith, Joel Leib, Justin Dick

Vice President Simon Fulford, acting on behalf of vacationing President Tyler Janzen, called the meeting to order at 7:37 p.m. He then asked that the Board Members present, plus SMILE members and others in attendance, introduce themselves; and then he went on to ask for a review of the June 19 Board Meeting minutes. After the review, Pat Hainley moved the minutes be accepted as presented, Rhea Smith seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

First on the agenda was SMILE Transportation Committee Chair Scott Kelly, who presented a quick overview of the committee and its work for the benefit of recently-elected Board Members. He reported that Portland’s Bike Share program may be expanded, and the Transportation Committee would like to see it extended to Sellwood and Westmoreland – and he proposed that the SMILE Board officially recommend to PBOT the expansion of the program to our neighborhood. He cautioned that such expansion would come at the cost of a few parking spaces, needed for the program’s bike racks. Elaine O’Keefe spoke in favor of the proposal, as did Simon Fulford. Elaine then made a motion that the Board endorse the expansion, to PBOT, of the city Bike Share program to Sellwood and Westmoreland. Justin Dick seconded the motion, which then passed with seven yes votes and one abstention. As Scott finished his report, Past SMILE President Corinne Stefanick – who was present – arose to thank Scott for the five years he has led the committee – and which he continues to lead.

Simon Fulford asked about the controversial city “Code Change” issue. The next committee meeting at which a vote is to take place is tomorrow night, said Gail Hoffnagle, and she said she would attend. Some neighborhood associations have already gone on record as opposing this effort to end any official status before the city government of neighborhood associations, but Elaine suggested we wait to take a formal position on it until after the committee of the newly-renamed Office of Civic and Community Life votes to forward the final version of the Code Change language to the City Council for action. Fulford asked Hoffnagle to keep the Board apprised of the outcome of the meeting tomorrow evening in North Portland.

SMILE has received a notification of plans for the annual “Hood to Coast Race” once again to run through our neighborhood, on August 23, and they request our approval. Simon Fulford read the entire letter to the Board; Elaine O’Keefe moved we approve the request, Eric Norberg seconded the motion, and it then passed unanimously.

Fulford asked Nancy Walsh for a final Board update on “Sundae in the Park” on August 4 in Sellwood Park. She said that “things are coming together”, but observed that volunteers are always welcome, and Board Members are especially welcome to help out.

Turning to the matter of the SMILE effort to take over and operate the Sellwood Community Center after its August 31 PP&R closure date, Gail Hoffnagle remarked that the new website for what we propose to rename “Sellwood Community House” is now up on the Internet [[sellwoodcommunityhouse.org](http://sellwoodcommunityhouse.org)], and is in development. Kevin Palmer is our webmaster. There are 1,000 local cookbooks available as possible premiums for donations.

Kim Borcharding was present and passed out a report on progress in taking over “Sellwood Community House”, and Kevin Palmer arose for a verbal website report. Pat Hainley next passed out two different organizational proposals for the Community Center’s operation under SMILE, for Board consideration; discussion followed later in the meeting. Kim Borcharding also distributed a community survey about the Center that she is passing out in the community. All these documents distributed to the Board are incorporated into these minutes, by reference.

Gail Hoffnagle said, “We need to attend to two things tonight – (1) we have a new lawyer; (2) we have a building evaluation.” Eric Norberg asked Gail, “We *did* submit a takeover proposal to PP&R; have we had any response?” Gail responded that PP&R has promised a counter-proposal soon [one was received later this same evening, after the meeting, it turned out]. “This process is going faster than I anticipated,” remarked Gail, sounding a hopeful note.

Getting back to a discussion of Pat Hainley’s two organizational options – previously distributed in the meeting – Pat said that he, himself, favors setting up a corporation to run the Center (“Option 2”), with SMILE having the power to appoint Board Members for this separate entity. It would have to obtain for it its own 501c3 status for it to accept donations directly, but until then donations can be made c/o SMILE as its fiscal agent, making the donations tax-deductible. Simon Fulford next led a Board discussion of the differences between Option 1 and Option 2.

Eric Norberg moved that SMILE proceed with “Option 2”, and Justin Dick seconded. In the discussion period before the vote, several statements were made in favor of Option 2, and there was some Q-and-A. Gail Hoffnagle eventually called the question, and the motion passed unanimously.

Paul M. Falsetto, Architect (PMFA), was present to report on his own recent inspection of the Sellwood Community Center building. “It has really good historic integrity. Its ‘envelope’ is pretty good, but some of its systems need help.”

He pointed out that SMILE has “unusual expertise” available in running the Center. SMILE needs to create a master plan, he said – perhaps a 10-year plan – and it should aim for it to be sustainable in its use and programs. There is some ‘unassigned space’ which can be used productively, he said; Hoffnagle agreed that “the rooms need flexibility” of use. Falsetto proposed that he, himself, administer the construction phase of the work; he commented that creating a master plan could take two months.

But Falsetto and Kim Borcharding agreed that “*paint* can quickly freshen the building right away”, and Kim said that she has identified a design firm willing to do this “pro bono”.

With no further items on the agenda, or offered from the floor, Simon Fulford moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Rhea Smith seconded the motion – when quickly passed unanimously at 9:21 p.m.