

## SMILE GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING

December 3, 2014

SMILE Station

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Procedural

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**OFFICERS PRESENT:** Gail Hoffnagle, President; Mat Millenbach, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg, Secretary

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ellen Burr; Corinne Stefanick; Bob Burkholder

President Hoffnagle called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm, and began by soliciting self-introductions from those present around the room. At this point, a review of the minutes for approval was scheduled, but since no quorum was present, the matter was postponed.

Hoffnagle introduced Corinne Stefanick as the new Chair of the reactivated SMILE ad-hoc Crime Prevention Committee. Present by prearrangement was Teri Poppino, the new Crime Prevention Specialist for Inner Southeast from the Office of Neighborhood Involvement; and after congratulating Corinne on her new responsibilities, Poppino proceeded to present information for our neighborhood.

Sellwood and Westmoreland are served by the Portland Police Bureau through Central Precinct, at this time – a precinct which serves all of the West Side, plus the East Side of Portland up to S.E. Chavez Blvd (39<sup>th</sup>), beyond which East Precinct takes over. We formerly were served through Southeast Precinct, which was closed a few years back in an economy move. Southeast Precinct has reopened, but on a more limited basis – we may eventually have Southeast Precinct serving our area, but at present for us it's Central Precinct.

Two officers are in our neighborhood area most of the time – one officer, overnight – so we do not have a lot of coverage. She reminded us that if some crime occurs, or you are just suspicious, CALL! Call 9-1-1 for crimes in progress or urgent matters; call the non-emergency line for past “cold” crimes and less urgent information (503/823-3333). “Call on any crime or offense! Your coverage is determined by calls for service, so don't hesitate!” If a 9-1-1 operator discourages your report, simply say that the neighborhood Crime Prevention Specialist and local officers have asked you to call, so you are calling. If you are still discouraged by the operator, ask to speak to a supervisor. The 9-1-1 officers are NOT a part of the police department.

Poppino went on to describe how to set up a Neighborhood Watch. She quoted crime statistics for the neighborhood: “Car prowls are frequent in this area, so keep anything of any possible value totally out of sight in your car.” And she suggested residents keep a log of regular ongoing problems in the neighborhood – a record like that can be very helpful to the police in getting legal cause to get a search warrant against a problem house, for example.

Poppino warned that package theft is a problem currently throughout the city; miscreants follow delivery trucks around – and as they depart after delivering a package, the thieves run up to that porch and steal the package.

Next to appear were Rich Cassidy and Linda Ginenthal from PBOT, who were present to sound out the neighborhood on hosting a “Sunday Parkways” event in or near Westmoreland and Sellwood. They were suggesting the last Sunday in September of 2015 as the date – right after the Tilikum Transit Bridge opens near OMSI. It would be 11-4 pm, and would involve closing some residential streets for the use of pedestrians and bicyclists. There was a positive response to the idea from those present.

Ann Gibbons stood to promote the 36<sup>th</sup> annual Duniway Home Tour this Friday. The proceeds benefit Duniway Elementary School in Eastmoreland – which also serves Sellwood kids south of Tacoma Street, she reminded. There are day and evening tour times, with vendors set up at the school to serve those on the tour that day. She offered tickets to the event.

A quorum had still not been attained, so the review of the November minutes will be postponed until the January General Meeting. Without a quorum, as well, no motion for adjournment could be entertained, so President Hoffnagle herself announced the meeting as adjourned, at 8:50 pm.