

SMILE General Public Meeting minutes

July 5, 2017

SMILE Station

Main Website

Procedural

www.SellwoodMoreland.org <<>> www.SMILErecords.org

OFFICERS PRESENT: Joel Leib, President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg,
Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Kevin Palmer; Miriam Erb

President Joel Leib called the meeting to order at 7:33 p.m., and asked those present to introduce themselves, around the room. No quorum had been attained at that point – nor, as it turned out, at any time during the meeting, so the approval of the minutes of the June 7 General Meeting was postponed until the August General Meeting.

Rachel Ginocchio was present, representing the Sellwood-Westmoreland Business Alliance, and asked to begin our meeting with announcements. She announced that the SWBA is now distributing a weekly e-mail newsletter, for which anyone can sign up on the SWBA website (www.SellwoodWestmoreland.com). She went on to remind those present of the upcoming business promotion – “Summer Sidewalks” – which will take place on the last Saturday of July, the 29th. Each participating store will host some sort of activity for the public. It’s planned that home businesses and those without a local storefront will have a central area in which to set up for visitors.

Nancy Walsh was present to report on the upcoming “Sundae in the Park”, on the first Sunday in August, the 6th, in upper Sellwood Park, from noon until around 11 p.m. (although the SMILE portion will end a bit after 5 p.m.). Nancy distributed this year’s Sundae in the Park poster and flyer design – and sought volunteers to help out at the annual neighborhood celebration. The ice cream and all food sales benefit “The Meals On Wheels People”. Anyone interested in being the impresario of this event in the future should contact Nancy Walsh, the current Chair, to shadow her for a year to learn the ropes. Nancy also has a binder with all the necessary information and resources.

Next to appear, on the agenda at his own request, was Tom Browne, Field Director of an organization formed to produce a ballot initiative to put an “excise tax” of 1.5 cents per fluid ounce on any drink sold with sugar in it. It was intended to be on the ballot late this year, but it was just announced by the organizers as having been pushed back a year to 2018. He explained that medically prescribed liquids with sugar in them would be excluded. A lengthy question and answer period followed.

Cooper Kairis, Chair of the nonprofit “Surfrider Foundation”, followed – an organization, he explained, devoted to enjoying rivers and oceans. The foundation also organizes cleanups on beaches and along rivers – and it will hold a “Portland Action Day” in Sellwood Riverfront Park this weekend, July 11, 6 to 8 p.m. Attendees will clean up the beach at the park beside the Willamette River, and then will paddle over to Ross Island to perform further cleanup there. New Seasons Market will be providing refreshments to volunteers.

President Leib then offered an update on the upgrades in progress at SMILE Station. The bike rack concrete pad has been poured (ready for the bike racks the city promised to install at no charge to us if we provided the pad), and the sidewalk next to our north driveway – torn up in a recent sewer repair – has also now been repaired. The front lawn path to the Sellwood Bridge Remnant is largely complete, and the fundraising component – the sale of each paver in the path to a sponsor, whose name will be engraved on it while in place – can proceed in due course. The total cost to date is \$3,893.75, which is significantly under budget, he said.

Crime Prevention Committee Chair R. Corless arose at this point for a progress report on putting together her committee. She offered a crime tip – watch out for “shoulder surfing”, which is when people behind you or next to you watch as you use your bankcard at a terminal or ATM, or write a check. She announced that there will be a “Neighborhood Watch” clinic next month conducted by Mark Wells from the O.N.I. Crime Prevention office. “August is Crime Prevention Month,” she said. There will be a block party at Tenino and 17th at the Sellwood Center Apartments, as part of “National Night Out”. Nancy Walsh reminded those present that the neighborhood’s city-recognized **official** “National Night Out” activity is “Sundae in the Park” on August 6, and that is why we are able to use Sellwood Park for the event without charge.

Although Eliane O’Keefe is on vacation, it was reported on her behalf that there were 599 responses (115 from businesses) in our online Parking Survey, which – it was revealed – has now closed. The results are being tabulated.

There being no other business on the agenda, or offered from the floor, Pat Hainley moved the meeting be adjourned, and Nancy Walsh seconded – followed by a unanimous vote by those present to approve. There being no quorum present, the motion was invalid; but the meeting ended immediately, anyway, by declaration of President Joel Leib, at 8:28 p.m.