Vice President Simon Fulford, acting on behalf of President Tyler Janzen who had a prior commitment and could not attend, called the meeting to order at 7:36 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 July 17 Board Meeting minutes. After the review, and after two corrections were requested by the Board, Elaine O’Keefe moved the minutes be accepted as amended, Elizabeth Milner seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

First on the agenda was Gail Hoffnagle, SMILE Board Member and Chair of the Board of the newly-formed corporation, overseen by SMILE, “Friends of Sellwood Community House”. With the corporation now formed, Gail said the next step was to open a checking account, and now the SMILE Board needs to make a motion to transfer initial funds into it (from the dedicated account containing the Helen Hiczun bequest), in order to start the funding of the startup of the Sellwood Community House in September. The original amount contemplated for transfer had been $30,000, but Elaine O’Keefe, Joel Leib, and Pat Hainley agreed that $50,000 would be a more useful amount for the first transfer. Elaine O’Keefe then made a motion that SMILE proceed to transfer $50,000 into the Friends of Sellwood Community House checking account. Eric Norberg seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

There followed a brief discussion of the many steps being taken to prepare for the operation of what formerly had been known as Sellwood Community Center. 87 people have signed up for the new facility’s after-school programs, revealed Julie Currin. Registration for other programs began today. Julie added, “and the website looks great!”

The next agenda item involved two recommendations from the SMILE Transportation Committee of letters it was proposing that the Board adopt and send. SMILE Transportation Committee Chair Scott Kelly was present to offer the letters, and to respond to any questions. The first letter, incorporated into these minutes by reference, asked PBOT to remove the double yellow stripes down the middle of S.E. 17th Street between Nehalem and McLoughlin Boulevard. (Such striping north and south of that zone on 17th would remain.) Eric Norberg objected to the proposal on several counts, some involving safety.
Elizabeth Milner made a motion the letter be adopted by SMILE and sent, Elaine O'Keefe seconded, and the motion carried by a vote of 6 yes, 1 no, 1 abstain.

The second letter, also incorporated into these minutes by reference, was to request that ODOT close the eastbound access to McLoughlin Boulevard southbound at S.E. Insley in North Westmoreland, on the grounds of safety. The matter was brought to the committee by resident Rich Hildreth, who was present at the Board Meeting. Eric Norberg pointed out that there is no reason not to close the entire street at McLoughlin, since southbound drivers can exit at the previous and the following intersections – and if the street were only closed eastbound, drivers could simply dodge left around the barricade and still turn southbound – and, Insley is on a blind curve at McLoughlin. Elaine O'Keefe suggested that the letter could delete mention of “eastbound” and leave up to ODOT how to close the street. Elaine moved the letter remove mention of “eastbound” in the request, and with that change be sent by the Board to ODOT. Eric Norberg seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The final item on the agenda was a Board discussion of a new local controversy – a new marijuana dispensary is opening on S.E. 13th next to a toy store and on the same block as a preschool; it has been given a permit by the city, but might be in violation of the state regulations concerning distances from dispensaries to full-day schools. There was no overt advocacy on the matter from the audience, although meeting attendees did join the discussion. Elaine O'Keefe said she would like to learn just what the law does allow before SMILE even thinks about taking a position. Simon Fulford suggested the Land Use Committee might investigate the issue and consider making a recommendation to the Board; and he also suggested that a representative from OLCC be invited to discuss this issue with the Board. Elaine expressed reservations about “assigning” something to the Land Use Committee. Joel Leib suggested the dispensary owner could appear to discuss the matter with the Board also. At that point the discussion ended for the time being, with no action taken.

As the end of the meeting approached, Joel Leib announced the setting of a deadline for ending the second round of SMILE Station walkway brick “sales” – Friday, September 13 – in an effort to get immediate action out of those who may have an interest in having a brick engraved; and he asked that the new deadline appear in the SMILE paid newsletter that appears in THE BEE. Eric agreed to get it in before the September issue of the newspaper would be sent to press the following day.

With no other agenda items remaining, and no other items offered from the floor, Pat Hainley moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Gail Hoffnagle seconded. The motion carried with evident unanimity at 8:57 p.m.