

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

February 19, 2020

SMILE Station

Main Website

www.SellwoodMoreland.org

Procedural

<<>> www.SMILErecords.org

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Elaine O’Keefe, Julie Currin, Gail Hoffnagle,
Eriks Berzins, Bob Burkholder, Priyesh Krishnan, Elizabeth Milner

Vice President Simon Fulford called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., and began by asking for personal introductions, around the room – after which he welcomed our two new Board Members. He determined that a quorum of the Board was present, and asked that the Board review the minutes of the January 15 Board meeting. After the review, Elaine O’Keefe moved that the minutes be accepted as presented, and Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, which carried with one abstention.

First to appear was Fran Shaw, a member of the Oaks Bottom Lions Club, a group which has been involved with presenting the annual SMILE Easter Egg Hunt in Westmoreland Park, on each Saturday before Easter, for a number of years. She reported that our usual source for inexpensive chocolate Easter Eggs (buying through Alpenrose Dairy) is no longer assisting us, and is not expected to in the future. It appears we will have to order the eggs directly from the manufacturer ourselves, and most of the considerable expense would be shipping – the manufacturer, in the East, requires two-day delivery to protect the quality of the chocolate eggs in transit, and there seems no present way around this requirement. The estimate for buying and shipping the needed quantity of chocolate eggs is a total that approaches \$1,800. Elizabeth Milner moved that SMILE cover the cost of the eggs up to \$1,000, and Gail Hoffnagle seconded the motion. Eric Norberg said he would personally pay the remainder of the cost, this year, if needed. The motion then carried, with one abstention. The Board told Fran, “It’s a ‘go’ for this year.”

Scott Kelly, Chair of the SMILE Transportation Committee, presented a letter addressed to the Portland Bureau of Transportation from his committee, for which he requested a affirming Board vote. The letter requests that the new Director of PBOT affirm the commitment made previously by PBOT to SMILE of an ongoing effort to mitigate traffic problems relating to traffic loads on Tacoma Street, and on some parallel streets, in the hours in which commuters are attempting to cross the Sellwood Bridge. The prior commitment had included an evaluation of the Phase 1 speed bump project which had already been installed, and considering a Phase 2 if needed; and it also asked for the status of the traffic signal at S.E. 6th and Tacoma. Pat Hainley moved the Board adopt the letter, Simon Fulford seconded, and the motion carried with one abstention.

Bob Burkholder then arose for the SMILE Land Use Committee, of which he is a member, in place of David Schoellhamer, its Chair, who could not be present. The committee had prepared testimony to submit to the city concerning Portland's "South Reach River Plan" – testimony which he displayed on the screen at the front of the room, and which is incorporated into these minutes by reference. After a review of the proposed testimony, Elizabeth Milner, Chair of SMILE's S.N.A.C. Committee, suggested incorporating a couple of additional points offered by the Audubon Society as well as by S.N.A.C., concerning construction setbacks from the shoreline. Simon Fulford moved that the Board approve the letter with the addition of the points brought up by Elizabeth; Gail Hoffnagle seconded the motion, and it then carried unanimously.

Pat Hainley spoke next, concerning the imperiled status of the long-standing SMILE Neighborhood Cleanup held at Westmoreland Park's parking lot each May. There are new restrictions from the city to contend with, which would increase our costs; these will be addressed by raising the dump fees charged to those bringing trash for the Cleanup this year, and the future of the event will be re-evaluated after this year's Cleanup. Pat made it clear he sought no action from the Board on this at this time; he was just informing the Board of the situation, and of the possible extra costs.

Last on the agenda was Elaine O'Keefe, on the subject of SMILE's marketing and outreach. Simon Fulford reminded the Board that we are trying to reach more members of our neighborhood communities than in the past; he added that our election response at the General Meeting on February 5 suggests we are doing something right. Elaine then said she would like more reporting from some of SMILE's committees which "are not much heard from", so she can post their reports on our general website. She would also like some help with online resources. She observed that former Board Member Kevin Palmer has been very helpful in developing such resources for SMILE. She also said she "would like a SMILE presence on Instagram". A lengthy Board conversation followed, on these points. Simon then asked her to draw up her recommendations for future brainstorming.

There being no other business on the agenda, or offered from the floor, Pat Hainley moved the meeting be adjourned. Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, which then carried, with evident unanimity, at 9:09 p.m.