

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

February 17, 2020

Via ZOOM videoconferencing

Main Website

www.SellwoodMoreland.org

<<>>

Procedural

www.SMILErecords.org

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Elaine O’Keefe, Jim Friscia, Juliana James, Neal Spinler

ALSO ATTENDING: R. Corless; Bill Manera

Due to social distancing measures ordered by the State of Oregon to avoid spreading the COVID-19 coronavirus, this meeting was conducted online using the ZOOM application, with advance notice of the meeting having been made online – advising how any interested persons could join it by requesting the admission code; and, as noted above, a few did.

President Simon Fulford called the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m., and – observing the presence of a quorum – began the meeting by presenting the agenda, and then by inviting a review of the minutes of the January 27 SMILE Board Meeting. After that review, Elaine O’Keefe moved that the minutes be approved as presented; Pat Hainley seconded the motion; and after the vote, Simon announced the motion as having carried unanimously.

After that, Fulford pointed out to the Board that Phil Richman, who has been our financial advisor for our investments for a number of years, has left TenBridge Partners and has set up his new firm. Fulford asked if the Board is willing to approve the transfer of our funds from TenBridge to Phil’s new firm? Pat Hainley said he had discussed the matter with Phil, and that he’s comfortable with the move; fees will be approximately the same, and we would lose nothing significant in the way of services available to us. Eric Norberg moved the Board approve the transfer, and Juliana James seconded the motion. In the discussion period, Simon wondered aloud just how accessible Phil would be as a one-man shop. Then the question was called, and the vote followed; Simon announced that the motion had “carried unanimously”.

The next item under consideration was posed as a question by President Fulford: “As Sellwood Community House develops, should there be a time to transfer the rest of the funds we hold in trust for it, from the Helen Hiczun bequest? Some discussion followed. Eric pointed out that the bequest was specifically made to SMILE – to benefit the Sellwood Community Center/House as needed, and was not made directly to the institution; so he suggested that any decision be made in consonance with the terms of the bequest. We have until now kept it in a dedicated fund to assist the facility in times of need.

Next, Neal Spinier made a report from the new SMILE Communications Committee. He reminded the Board that the committee would like to pursue two communications grants

from Southeast Uplift – the regular routine annual communications grant for the required community newsletter, which this year amounts only to \$500; and another and new and larger grant (\$1,000) which would require a full application process – with which the committee would use for mailing oversize postcards to the whole neighborhood, to raise consciousness about SMILE and its services. Pat Hainley moved that the committee pursue both grants, and Jim Friscia seconded the motion: President Fulford then announced the subsequent vote as “unanimous”, in favor.

Continuing this report from the Communications Committee, Elaine O’Keefe reported that Kevin Palmer has now completed the move of our three main websites (the general website, the Oaks Pioneer Church website, and the SMILE Station website) to our new host, “W P Engine”, and offered her thanks to Kevin. There was some discussion of some sort of special recognition to Kevin for all his fine work.

Jim Friscia followed, with the new SMILE Events Committee’s report. He said the committee had set up a subcommittee on “Sundae in the Park”, which has started a discussion, but no decisions have been made. Having that 40-year neighborhood celebration again this August is questionable, due to the pandemic. On another subject, he observed that the fate of PP&R’s “Summer Free For All” is “still unknown this year” – and our July Monday evening Concert series in Sellwood Park is part of that. We might have to do mini-concerts in the neighborhood instead, as we did last fall. However, the annual Neighborhood Cleanup, which we also had to omit last year, is scheduled to return this year on the third Saturday in May at Westmoreland Park; it should be possible to conduct it safely out-of-doors, under the state pandemic rules.

Friscia went on to say he had attended (virtually, via ZOOM) a meeting of the Sellwood Moreland Business Alliance (SMBA) business association Board, and he said they are also unsure of which of their events they will be able to conduct this year – but, they are interested in potential collaborations with SMILE. He added that the Events Committee currently meets (virtually) on the Friday prior to the SMILE monthly Board Meeting.

President Fulford offered a “staffing update”: Lorraine Fyre, our longtime SMILE Station Manager and “SMILE Angel”, has decided to retire this weekend for various reasons, including health and family. We need to consider appropriate recognition and appreciation. Pat Hainley suggested retaining Lori for an extra month to organize SMILE records in the basement. There was considerable discussion, and general agreement that that would be a good idea. The SMILE Finance Committee will meet with Lorraine and Christina Timberlake in a ZOOM meeting [Tuesday, February 23, 2-3 p.m.] to pursue details of the transition.

R. Corless asked for a moment at the end of the meeting to remind us that the Portland Office of Civic Life continues to offer training workshops on personal safety and business safety, and anyone in the neighborhood who is interested can enroll in them. As Chair of the SMILE Crime Prevention Committee, she also disclosed that there are two new police officers patrolling our area now.

Pat Hainley moved the meeting be adjourned; Eric Norberg seconded the motion; and the motion apparently carried without objection at 8:51 p.m.