

SMILE General Meeting minutes

April 7, 2021

Via ZOOM, online

Main Website

www.SellwoodMoreland.org

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Procedural

www.SMILErecords.org

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Friscia; Neal Spinler; Elaine O’Keefe; Elizabeth Milner

SMILE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: R. Corless; Spence Williams; Duff Hall; Bruce Joncas and Lisa Sheppard; Ezra Cohen; T.K. Conrad; Yachi Iisako; Lawrence O’Donnell; Brenda Ray Scott; David Schoellhamer; Zack Duffly; Stan and Brenda Scotton

OTHER GUESTS: State Representative Karin Power; “Christina” *[visiting scholar From South Korea, with an interest in neighborhood associations]*; James Barta

President Simon Fulford called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. He began by reviewing, for those attending, the protocols for SMILE’s ZOOM meetings, as well as the agenda, and the minutes of the March 3 SMILE General Meeting. With a quorum present (peak attendance was 27 participants), he made a motion, seconded by Elaine O’Keefe, that the minutes [inferentially including the February 3 minutes, which he had previously reviewed and found there to be no objection to at the March General Meeting, but for which there was then no quorum for approval] be approved as submitted. No objections were made to the motion, which was announced by Fulford as unanimously approved with one abstention.

President Fulford next turned to the annual SMILE Board Election coming up at the May 5 General Meeting, in accordance with the SMILE Bylaws. With the assistance of Jim Friscia, Simon narrated a PowerPoint presentation on SMILE’s history, function, and role in the community. He went on to ask the Chairs of some SMILE Committees to describe their committees, and what they do. Those who responded included, in order, David Schoellhamer, Zack Duffly, Elizabeth Milner (as well as Ezra Cohen, who chairs the new “Friends of Oaks Bottom” SNAC subcommittee), R. Corless, Bob Burkholder, Jim Friscia, and Elaine O’Keefe.

Fulford concluded by encouraging everyone living in, working in, or owning property in, the Sellwood-Westmoreland neighborhood – all of whom are considered SMILE Members – to consider running for the open Board seats in May (the election will take place on May 5-6 online, and will have a paper ballot voting option for those preferring it, with the election overseen and conducted by our Neighborhood Coalition, Southeast Uplift). And, he suggested, if not ready yet to run for the Board, perhaps join a SMILE committee.

The featured speaker at the meeting had been announced as Oregon State Representative Karin Power, and she was present, and was introduced next. She shared her background

(she is a third-term State Representative in Salem, and “the youngest mom in the legislature”). She is currently Chair of the Early Childhood Education Committee, and is on several other committees. She commented that the current “federal investment in ‘early learning’ is unprecedented”. She then declared herself open to questions, and responded to questions on homelessness, early childhood legislative bills, state land use rules, childhood poverty, the Portland Harbor environmental cleanup, new environmental legislative bills, and affordable housing. [She provided hotlinks leading to further information on some of these topics in the “chat box” of the ZOOM meeting, so those chat notes are appended to these minutes, to provide access to those hotlinks.]

Jim Friscia – this time representing the new SMILE Events Committee – announced that there would be several informal live music opportunities coming up in the neighborhood, on Thursday afternoons, from April 15 to the end of July, at Sellwood Community House. And, he added, there would be other live music events in the neighborhood throughout the summer.

On behalf of the new SMILE Communications Committee, Elaine O’Keefe reported that the major effort of the committee this month is to attract the attention of neighborhood people, encouraging them to be candidates for the Board Election in May.

President Fulford thanked all who attended the meeting, and invited everyone back to attend the April Board Meeting on the 21st, via ZOOM. He then declared the meeting to be adjourned, at 8:56 p.m.