

SMILE General Meeting minutes

June 2, 2021

Via ZOOM, online

Main Website

www.SellwoodMoreland.org

<<>>

Procedural

www.SMILErecords.org

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Friscia; Zack Duffly; Elaine O’Keefe; Emily Pitts; Bob Burkholder; Sarah Bunger

SMILE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: R. Corless; Jim Morris; “August”; Ruth Kaser; David Schoellhamer; Kristin Flewelling; Bob Schomburg

OTHER GUESTS: Kathy Asher, Senior Communications Specialist, Portland Water Bureau

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 evening’s agenda, and the minutes of the May 5 SMILE General Meeting and Election. However, at no point in the meeting was a quorum attained, so although there seemed informal agreement for approval of the minutes when those present were asked, they will be held over for approval at the next SMILE General Meeting.

President Fulford next turned to the new Board Members present at the meeting who were elected last month, and welcomed them to the Board: Sarah Bunger, Zack Duffly, Emily Pitts, and Bob Burkholder. (Ayomide Nikzi had not yet arrived.) Each briefly spoke.

Next on the agenda was Kathy Asher, Senior Communications Specialist, Portland Water Bureau, who was present to discuss with the neighborhood the upcoming “S.E. Lambert and 19th Sellwood Water Main Replacement” project. This project will take about a year to complete; it involves replacing 4,800 feet of an aging water main that was installed in 1927 and has suffered six breaks in recent years. The project will start at S.E. Marion Street and 19th, moving north on 19th to Lambert, at which point it will jog west a block to Milwaukie Avenue before completing. “Rolling water shutoffs” will take place as needed – and with advance notice. The work will be done in phases; different types of work will be done at different times, so each location can see several bursts of activity.

Tree foliage will be trimmed if it’s hanging lower than 15 feet above the street in the construction area – with the trimming to be supervised by an arborist. Some noise and dirt is to be expected in construction areas; steel plates will be used to cover incomplete excavations – fully repaving the street will occur when the project is completed. Since 19th Avenue is a bicycle and pedestrian greenway, detours for bikes and pedestrians will be established around active construction areas, a block east or west of 19th, for safety. Street parking will at times be limited or prohibited, but mail service and deliveries will continue, as will garbage services. No start date has yet been set for this project; it’s out for bid right now. David Schoellhamer reminded that a major apartment development is planned in the vicinity of north end of this project, on Lambert Street between Milwaukie and 17th – with

demolition of the existing church on that property expected to start this year, and completion of the new construction potentially as early as next year. The Water Bureau is aware of this, and is talking with the people associated with the project. Asher concluded by giving her contact information for those interested: katy.asher@portlandoregon.gov, 503/865-6054. The project website is: <http://www.portland.gov/water/Lambert19> – that’s where individuals can sign up to receive project updates.

President Fulford then asked for reports from some of SMILE’s many committees.

First, from the new Events Committee, Jim Friscia reported that the postponed 2021 SMILE Neighborhood Cleanup has now been set for the last Saturday in in September – that’s the 25th. It will again be in the south parking lot of Westmoreland Park, and this year Eastmoreland will be joining us in it. Pat Hainley then gave the background of this, the oldest neighborhood cleanup in the state – it has a history of over 40 years. Then Friscia turned to the committee’s plans for small live concerts by local musical performers this summer – using two sites in Westmoreland (only one in a given week) on Saturday evenings: The parking lot on the south side of the Windermere Building at S.E. 15th and Bybee Boulevard; and the parking lot of Moreland Presbyterian Church, at Bybee and 18th. Sellwood’s performances will be on Tuesdays at Sellwood Community House, and at a second site to be determined. Originally it was expected that there would be four concerts in July and four in August, but three per month seems to be more practical, said Jim.

Next, Elaine O’Keefe reported on behalf of the new SMILE Communications Committee. The e-mail changes planned by Neal Spinler for Board Members have not been completed yet; the next meeting of the committee is June 16. Elaine added that the committee is planning a permanent display in the SMILE Station lawn kiosk. For the SNAC committee, Simon Fulford read an e-mailed report: The stewardship project at Springwater Meadows in south Sellwood was begun recently – and the second half of it will take place on June 19. David Schoellhamer reported for the SMILE Land Use Committee that the city has received SMILE’s advocacy for accepting our Main Street Plan as an optional guideline for developers, and there were 52 positive citizen comments in support of it – now the City Commissioners will post their advocated amendments for the proposed DOZA rules tomorrow, and we home one or more will advocate adoption of our voluntary guidelines.

For the Community Safety (Crime Prevention) Committee, R. Corless reported that our neighborhood currently has seven “community safety teams” (formerly “neighborhood watches”); and she added that she will examine the current camper situation at the south end parking lot of Westmoreland Park, and will report on it to Simon Fulford and Jim Friscia. Lastly, Bob Burkholder reported for the SMILE ad-hoc Emergency Preparedness Committee that it is still trying to identify the best available neighborhood “emergency radio repeater” site, and is currently exploring the potential of making it PF&R Fire Station 20 on Bybee Boulevard – there are a number of advantages to using that building.

There being no other business on the agenda, or offered from those present, Pat Hainley moved that the meeting be adjourned. Bob Burkholder seconded the motion, which then carried with evident unanimity at 8:43 p.m.