

# SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

September 15, 2021

Via ZOOM videoconferencing

Main Website

[www.SellwoodMoreland.org](http://www.SellwoodMoreland.org)

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Procedural

[www.SMILErecords.org](http://www.SMILErecords.org)

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

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Sarah Bunger, Zack Duffly, Jim Fricia, Bob Burkholder

**ALSO ATTENDING:** Nanci Champlin, Jules McNicholas, Tina Nunez-Osterink, Gaylen Beatty, Lisa Hamilton, Lance Goldenberg, Heather Fison

*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.*

President Simon Fulford called the August SMILE Board Meeting to order at 7:34 p.m., and began by explaining the meeting protocols, and announcing that the meeting was being recorded. He then he reviewed the agenda. After noting the presence of a quorum, he invited the Board to review the minutes of the August 18 SMILE Board Meeting. Following that, Ayomide Nikzi moved that the minutes be approved as submitted; Zack Duffly seconded the motion; and, after the vote, Simon announced the motion as having carried unanimously.

Simon began the meeting by attempting to continue the lengthy discussion at this month's SMILE General Meeting about homelessness, and safe authorized camps. He asked if anyone had follow-up thoughts or comments? Lisa Hamilton asked what SMILE's position is on the use of former motels to house the homeless, and as concern's Vikki DeGaa's suggestion that if an official encampment location is to be sited in the neighborhood, that a good location would be in the open area west of the Les Schwab location near S.E. McLoughlin Boulevard. Simon responded that whether SMILE should **have** a position was one of the questions that SMILE is now exploring: What should SMILE do?

Lisa explained that she was worried about the possible loss of any community gardens in Portland, and particularly the one in Sellwood. (The City of Portland has considered converting Sellwood's Community Garden, which is on Portland Water Bureau property, to use as an authorized homeless encampment.) Zack Duffly said he would like SMILE to initiate an ad-hoc committee devoted to homelessness; Lisa said she would be happy to serve on such a committee. Simon endorsed the idea, and made a motion that such a committee be established; Zack seconded the motion. There followed some discussion about the parameters of such a committee; Simon commented that he would like to see a homeless advocate as a member on such a committee – and then he called the question. He tabulated

the vote, and announced that the Board vote was unanimous. He asked if a Board Member would be willing to step up and help organize the new committee, and set its first meeting. He added that he expects to be involved in the new committee. Zack said he would be willing to help with setup and the initial organizing of the committee. Bob Burkholder suggested R. Corless be on the committee; Simon agreed she would be a good liaison.

Next was a report from the S.N.A.C. committee by its Co-Chair, Tina Nunez-Osterink – as well as, she said, a proposal. She acknowledged the committee’s current \$1,200 annual budget, and defined its purpose, acknowledging the need to bring in more volunteers. She discussed the committee’s work on the Springwater Meadows and the Oaks Bottom Overlook projects. The proposal she had referred to was that the committee budget now be increased to \$1,500. There was some brief discussion.

Jim Friscia followed with an Events Committee report. Our twelve summer concerts went well; attendance varied between 60 and 200 at each. There were also twelve community underwriters of the concert series at \$150 each, which helped defray the costs; so the concerts cost SMILE a total of \$2,500 for all twelve.

Jim then announced that Sellwood Community House is planning six fall public dances, on the first and third Fridays of October through December – and they want SMILE to co-sponsor those, for a total of \$2,000. Jim said he would like to partner with them on this; “we have their offer in writing.” (Vaccination would be required of all attendees, in view of it being an indoor event during the COVID-19 pandemic.) Simon asked that the proposal be circulated to all Board members. Jim went on to say that he would like to prepay SMILE’s co-sponsorship from the budget surplus remaining in the Events Committee’s 2020-21 budget.

Next, Zack Duffly reported on behalf of the Transportation Committee. He pointed out that the Portland Marathon is once again being routed through Sellwood and Westmoreland – on Sunday, October 3 – and he detailed the street closures involved, which will be extensive. “It’s a big deal,” he remarked. He said he needs help getting the word out to local residents who should be made aware of the many temporary street closures. Various ways of doing that were discussed. Eric invited Zack to send him the details, to be added to the October “SMILE Report” in THE BEE.

Finally, Simon turned to his recent proposal of a “Board Retreat”. He said the “priorities” of Board Members for such a meeting had been received and were appreciated – and asked if anyone had follow-up thoughts. Nothing more was offered. He scrolled through the Board Members’ poll results, and then presented a proposed agenda for a four-hour Board Retreat – at a time and date to be determined. Jim Friscia asked about potentially having an “external facilitator” for this retreat; “Ideally, yes,” said Simon. Jim suggested Southeast Uplift might be able to help, and he said he will check on that.

There being no other business on the agenda, or offered from the floor, Pat Hainley moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Eric Norberg seconded. The motion carried with apparent unanimity at 9:05 p.m.