

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

June 15, 2022

In person at SMILE Station

Main Website

www.SellwoodMoreland.org

Procedural

<<>> www.SMILErecords.org

OFFICERS PRESENT: Elaine O’Keefe, President; Elizabeth Milner, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Sarah Bunger, Jim Friscia, MacKenzie Torres, Bob Burkholder, David Dugan, Zack Duffly, Dave Weber

ALSO ATTENDING: (none)

SMILE President Elaine O’Keefe called to order the second “live, in person” Board Meeting of SMILE in over two years at 7:35 p.m., with a special welcome to Dave Weber, a newly-elected Board Member who had not been able to attend the May meeting.

The first order of business was to allow all Board Members briefly to introduce themselves to each other, and then President O’Keefe brought up the July General Meeting, which falls on July 6, just two days after Independence Day, a national holiday, and a week in which many are vacationing. She asked how many Board Members would be able to attend such a meeting? It appeared several would not be able to, and Elaine said she suspected that the general SMILE membership would also be vacationing sufficiently to keep us from having a quorum at that meeting. Further, at present, there are no specific matters to address then, and no special program has been arranged. So she made the decision to **CANCEL the July 6 General Meeting**, So, the next Board Meeting will still be on July 20, but the next General Meeting will be on August 3.

Next on the agenda was a report from Jim Friscia, Chair of the new ad-hoc Events Committee, on the committee’s plans for summer fun in Sellwood and Westmoreland. He said there would be eight “neighborhood concerts” at 6:30 p.m. on Saturday nights this summer, split evenly between Sellwood and Westmoreland. A highlight of the summer will be a “Summerville” extended weekend, July 28-31 – co-sponsored by SMILE, SMBA (the Sellwood-Moreland Business Alliance), and Sellwood Community House. It will start with a Thursday afternoon market at the Community House in support of Ukraine; it will continue with our only “PPS Summer Free For All” concert this summer, in upper Sellwood Park. On Saturday there will be one of our neighborhood evening concerts; and the weekend will conclude on Sunday with a family afternoon, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., in Sellwood Park, styled after – and in tribute to – Sundae in the Park. Zack Duffly, who is by profession an attorney, expressed some concern about possible unfortunate reactions to the plan for a “family friendly drag show” as major entertainment there, and some discussion followed.

Friscia said he needs volunteers for setup and breakdown of the neighborhood concerts, distributing posters, and similar tasks, and he circulated a signup list. He pointed out that we are all still in a pandemic, and that more people than ever are getting infected with COVID-19 – and he suggested that perhaps those not interested in masking should be excluded from our crowd events. Discussion followed; an advisory will be included in our advertising of such events advising masking, and stating that there would be special

seating for those with compromised immune systems, to be limited to those masking.

President O’Keefe announced that a reconstituted SMILE Finance Committee had met and discussed the forthcoming budget, which will be in effect from October 2022 through September 2023, and the committee also discussed the upcoming renovations of SMILE Station. David Dugan is on that committee, and contributed to the report. Elaine said that Nancy Walsh intends to join the committee (she is Chair of the SMILE Station and the Oaks Pioneer Church Committees).

Elaine O’Keefe explained that it is contemplated that, this year, committees will submit their detailed budget requests before any planning by Pat Hainley of the forthcoming budget begins – with expenditures, and any revenue, included – and then the committee will evaluate all the requests before Pat begins his preparation of the budget. “This gives more autonomy to, and requires more accountability from, the committees.” That should result in Pat being able to submit a budget for approval by the Board in September, so that for the first time in memory the budget would be approved before the new SMILE fiscal year begins. All these committee requests are due by August first. Pat made clear that this process does not prevent subsequent requests for additional funds for unanticipated costs that may crop up.

Sarah Bunger, who is one of two Board members on both the SMILE Board and on the Board of Sellwood Community House, reported on an issue caused by a disgruntled person attacking the Community House, and potentially SMILE, on social media, using unethical and illegal tactics. “The Sellwood Community House Board is dealing with it,” she said. Some discussion followed.

President O’Keefe presented a “grant update”. Concerning the \$250,000 grant approved by the Portland City Council for repair and upgrading of SMILE Station, she said the grant was proposed by Commissioner Hardesty and we need to thank her for advocating it. She plans to submit a previously-circulated letter of thanks to her; there were no objections from the Board, and the letter will be sent.

Elaine continued, saying that she and Christina Timberlake had met with the Energy Trust of Oregon on June 14, and it appears that the grant-based work may present some opportunity for rebates. She proposes to hire “Studio Coop” to start investigatory work on the feasibilities of remodel plans; we need to make sure we avoid problems with the city code in planning the remodel, particularly in the basement, or we could spend the whole grant without being able to complete the remodel, due to code problems.

The contract with “Studio Coop” would cost \$10,000 but, she said, “it appears to be money well spent”. She went over the proposed contract with the Board, and told of her plans to add some spending limits on any outside consultants they may choose to call in to assist on the project, since such costs are not included in their \$10,000 fee. Pat Hainley made a motion that SMILE enter into an agreement with “Studio Coop”; Elizabeth Milner seconded the motion; and the motion carried unanimously. President O’Keefe now is to finalize the terms in the contract with “Studio Coop”.

There being no further business on the agenda, or offered from the floor, Bob Burkholder moved that the meeting be adjourned, and Pat Hainley seconded the motion. At that, Elaine O’Keefe herself adjourned the meeting at 9:06 p.m.