

SMILE General Meeting minutes

Wednesday, April 6, 2022

Via ZOOM, online

Main Website

www.SellwoodMoreland.org <<>>

Procedural

www.SMILErecords.org

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

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Elaine O’Keefe, Bob Burkholder, Jim Friscia, Sarah Bunger, Elizabeth Milner

SMILE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: R. Corless, MacKenzie Torres

Vice President Ayomide Nikzi called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. in the absence of President Simon Fulford. She began by reviewing, for those attending, the protocols for SMILE’s virtual ZOOM meetings, and announced that the meeting was being recorded – and then presented the evening’s agenda. Without a quorum present, no motion could be entertained for approving the minutes of the February 2nd and March 2nd General Meetings; they will be carried over for approval at the May General Meeting.

First to appear was Elizabeth Milner, Chair of the Election Committee. She has been meeting with the other two committee members, Elaine O’Keefe and MacKenzie Torres, and discussed the election protocols. The committee will meet again tomorrow. She asked those who want to run for seats on the Board – new candidates, and those seeking re-election – to send brief biographies to: elections@sellwood.org. A flyer promoting the election has been done by MacKenzie – it was shown, and received compliments – and publicity is underway.

Greg Bourget, of www.portlandcleanair.org, was next to appear, having made a request for a spot on tonight’s agenda. He said he sent a packet of letters from eleven neighborhood association Boards to us, but apparently we have not yet received it yet. He represents a group organized seven years ago concerned with air pollution issues, and he had maps showing what the group believes are levels of air pollution around the city; our neighborhood is better than average, he said. The group has liaison persons with 56 neighborhood associations; he was unaware that the Board Member who had accepted that role for SMILE had left the Board a year ago. He requested a new liaison from SMILE. Elaine suggested sending an e-mail to Simon Fulford about that. When asked for specifics about any air pollution sources in our neighborhood, he then discussed the Albina Rail Yard in Northeast Portland for some reason. He also referenced the recent air quality remediation at Precision Castparts on S.E. Johnson Creek Boulevard in Clackamas County.

Next to appear was a woman who also asked to be added to the General Meeting agenda, who turned out to be a candidate in the May 17th Primary Election for the newly redefined U.S. House of Representatives Oregon District 5: Ms. Jamie McLeod-Skinner. In a previous primary vs. Democratic incumbent Kurt Schrader, she admitted she had lost, but with the new boundary lines she feels she can beat him. The district now runs north to S.E. Tacoma Street in Sellwood, and “east to Sunriver”. (Rep. Earl Blumenauer still represents the neighborhood north of Tacoma Street in the House of

Representatives.) She compared herself to Blumenauer, and criticised Kurt Schrader. As to her background, she formerly lived in Santa Clara, Californian (“Silicon Valley”). She promised to vote reliably for the Democratic agenda in Congress, if elected, which she said Schrader may not.

“Community updates” was the next item on the SMILE agenda, and Elizabeth Milner reminded that Sellwood Community House is leading the annual SMILE Easter Egg Hunt this year, which will take place at Oaks Amusement Park on Saturday, April 16, at 11:30 a.m. sharp at Picnic Area 9 in The Oaks. It will also feature an appearance from the Easter Bunny, “so come early!” Discounted ride bracelets for Oaks Amusement Park are available for kids four feet tall and up, online at – www.oakspark.com/ridetix – if you use the discount code: SCHEGGHUNT. These ride bracelets must have been purchased online BEFORE April 16, however. This family-friendly kids’ egg hunt is, this year, a partnership of the SMILE neighborhood association, the Sellwood Community House, the Moreland Presbyterian Church, and the Oaks Bottom Lions Club.

R. Corless, Chair of the standing SMILE Crime Prevention Committee, reported that crime issues, generally, seem down from last year at this time.

Jim Friscia said that the SMILE Neighborhood Cleanup is returning this year on Saturday, May 21, at the Westmoreland Park parking lot at its south end, and this year is a partnership with the Eastmoreland neighborhood, as well as with Heiberg Garbage and Recycling. More information will be available soon on the [SMILE general website](#).

Friscia also said that events planning for the summer, by the ad-hoc SMILE Events Committee, is progressing, and is working on concerts – eight neighborhood Saturday evening concerts are planned this summer in the community. He added that SMILE is “borrowing” the “Summerville” event name from the Selwood Moreland Business Alliance this year, and is planning a summer weekend of events under that name – which, he hinted, might include a return by “Sundae in the Park”. Details will come later.

For the SMILE ad-hoc Communications Committee, MacKenzie Torres reported that a postcard has been sent to the USPS in advance of a SMILE mailing.

There being no other business on the agenda, or offered from the floor, Pat Hainley moved the meeting be adjourned, and Jim Friscia seconded the motion. However, the motion was invalid, since no quorum had developed during the meeting, so Ayomade Nikzi adjourned the meeting herself at 8:37 p.m.