

Next was the only declared candidate for Vice President in the election, **Elizabeth Milner**, also a Board Member of some five years, although she has been involved with SMILE for 10 years, and Chaired the SNAC committee for eight years. “We have a real opportunity to be a force for good in the community and the city,” she said.

The only declared candidate for Secretary, **Eric Norberg**, briefly introduced himself and said he would enjoy continuing to serve SMILE in that role. The only declared candidate for Treasurer, **Pat Hainley**, remarked that he was born and raised in the neighborhood, has just retired as a CPA, and has been SMILE Treasurer for twenty years.

There were five seats open on the at-large SMILE Board in this election, and six candidates for them. The fifth-highest vote-getter will receive a one-year term expiring in May of 2023, completing the term of former Board Member Neal Spinler who bought a house in North Portland and resigned from the Board in mid-term.

Seeking re-election to the Board were Zack Duffly and Jim Friscia. First to speak was **Zack Duffly**, an attorney by profession and a five-year neighborhood resident who has been a Board Member for the last year (completing the term of Alison Daniel, who resigned from the Board in mid-term), and is Chair of the SMILE Transportation Committee. **Jim Friscia** said he is a 30+ year resident of the neighborhood, has always been active in the community. He was on the SMILE Board 2008-2011, and returned to the Board as of 2019. He has long been head of the July “Concerts in the Park”, and currently serves on three SMILE committees – the new ad-hoc Events Committee, Communications Committee, and Housing Solutions Committee.

There were four additional candidates for Board seats, none of whom had served on the SMILE Board before. First to present was **David Dugan**, who said he is a 12-year resident of the neighborhood, has followed SMILE recently, and would like to serve. **MacKenzie Torres** introduced herself as involved in Sellwood Community House, and she wants to get more people involved in SMILE. She currently is a member of both the SMILE Events and Communications Committees.

Two additional candidates for Board seats had submitted brief statements to be read on their behalf (Simon read these for them to those attending), but who were not able to be in attendance. The first of these was **Cory Gidry**, who said he has been in business in the neighborhood for twenty years. The second of these was **David Weber**, who wrote that he is a Systems Engineer, a good listener, loves SMILE, and has lived in other places but “never felt more at home than here”. He wants to see the neighborhood continue to grow, but without losing its character.

At that point, President Simon Fulford pointed out that we had arrived at the last opportunity for anyone present to nominate themselves or anyone else for any open position, and he asked if there were any nominations. Nobody offered any additional nominations, so the ballot was finalized, and then was activated for voting by Southeast Uplift and by SMILE.

In addition to the in-person voting opportunity at SMILE Station on May 5, referred to previously, the electronic ballot will be open online for voting until Friday night, May 6, at 6 p.m., after which Southeast Uplift will close the voting and count the ballots. The results will be announced to SMILE early the following week. The online voting address was: <https://forms.office.com/r/2caWgZukAJ>

Returning to the agenda for tonight's meeting, President Fulford introduced David Schoellhamer, Chair of the SMILE Land Use Committee, who brought those present up to date on the contested request by the owner of the business property on the west side of S.E. Milwaukie Avenue between Isley and Ellis Streets, situated on the edge of the Oaks Bottom Bluff. He seeks to upzone his property to permit residential construction of as many as ten stories height. SMILE opposes this on the grounds that such is inconsistent with Portland's Comprehensive Plan, poses a demonstrated landslide risk, and does not meet city standards for access of such a facility to public transportation, among other things. It also is likely to be harmful to PP&R's Oaks Bottom Wildlife Refuge. SMILE has advanced a more reasonable and safer alternative plan for a residential facility there. Schoellhamer illustrated these points with a series of photographic slides.

Also speaking to these points was Marianne Nelson of the SMILE ad-hoc Friends of Oaks Bottom Committee. Some Q and A followed. The hearing officer recommended approval of the contested zoning change despite the demonstrated landslide risk at the site, and the City Council will have to decide – in a hearing currently scheduled for June 1. Schoellhamer and other members of the Land Use Committee will testify there, and others who support SMILE's position on this are encouraged to submit testimony and/or testify there too. More details may be found on the Land Use Committee page on the general SMILE website, www.SellwoodMoreland.org.

The last item on the agenda of tonight's meeting was an update from April Hasson of the Portland Water Bureau on the upcoming "S.E. Lambert and 19th Avenue Water Main Project" in Sellwood. Contracts have been awarded, she said, and construction will be getting underway in late May or early June. The contractor will work in four-block or five-block sections – working on these sections in turn, multiple times as necessary in order to complete the project while minimizing the inconvenience to motorists and residents.

Elaine O'Keefe took the opportunity of the end of his last meeting as President to say to Simon Fulford: "You're an extremely hard act to follow! We'll miss you!" Simon pointed out he will still be a resident of the neighborhood, and although he will no longer be a member of the Board, he does not plan to be a stranger to SMILE.

Pat Hainley announced that the first post-pandemic SMILE Neighborhood Cleanup, which this year will also include Eastmoreland, will be at the south end parking lot of Westmoreland Park on Saturday, May 21st. More information on this shortly.

Simon Fulford pointed out that although our Vice President of the last year, Ayomide Nikzi, was unable to attend her last meeting in that role, she loved being Vice President. He explained that her plate is too full for her to continue at this time, but that she looks forward to future contributions to SMILE as her busy schedule permits. And, he reminded everyone to be sure to vote!

Simon then declared the meeting adjourned, at 8:56 p.m.