SMILE General Meeting minutes

Wednesday, November 1, 2023
At SMILE Station, S.E. 13th at Tenino

Main Website **www.SellwoodMoreland.org** <<>> Procedural **www.SMILErecords.org**

OFFICERS PRESENT: David Dugan, President; Elizabeth Milner, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg, Secretary
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Bob Burkholder, Elaine O'Keefe, Tracy Fisher, Grant Huling
SMILE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Tom Brown, SMBA; Creed Skete

The meeting was called to order by SMILE President David Dugan at 7:33 p.m. He led self-introductions of everyone present, around the room. He observed the lack of a quorum, and tabled the October General Meeting minutes until the December meeting.

Tom Brown, who founded the Sellwood-Moreland Business Alliance business association, and is its current de facto leader, was next – to discuss plans for this year's Holiday Season special merchant promotion, "Decemberville" in early December. All merchants in both Sellwood and Westmoreland are welcome to participate, and most will. SMBA is working in cooperation with the Sellwood Community House, SMILE, and Oaks Amusement Park to help pull off the event this year. Tom also said that a separate business promotion is taking place across the city on November 16 – and several local merchants are participating in it, which involved a small-business "game" for customers to play, with prizes – some of them substantial – to win; it's run by a nonprofit organization supporting Portland area small business, "Bricks Need Mortar".

President Dugan turned to the matter of our need to replace MacKenzie Torres, a SMILE Board Member who accepted a job in Bend, which required her resigning from our Board and moving to Bend – and a quarter of her two-year term remains. Our ByLaws specify procedure for filling an empty Board seat in a special election, which we expect Southeast Uplift will help us run. We announced the opening and solicited candidates at this meeting, and we plan the election of the replacement Board Member at the December 6 General Meeting. The electee will serve only until this coming May, when this term ends. Dugan pointed out it's is an opportunity to "try out" being a SMILE Board Member with a short term commitment – and if the new Board Member wants to continue, that person can run for re-election as an incumbent in May. We will take nominations from the floor at that meeting, and since we need a quorum of local SMILE members to hold an election – a quorum is 20 residents of Sellwood or Westmoreland, property owners in the neighborhood, or employees of businesses in the neighborhood – we encourage those coming to bring friends or family to help us reach the quorum.

Returning to the "Decemberville" subject, those present explored ways SMILE could participate in this. The raffling of a block of time to put on an event at SMILE Station was suggested, as was being a "warming station" and a venue for entertainment that day. Perhaps Sellwood Community House's Ukulele Band could perform. We'll check with Chris Timberlake to see to what extent SMILE Station is available that day.

President Dugan adjourned the meeting early, at 8:13 p.m., to permit those attending to tour the newly-completed and quite striking renovation of the SMILE basement space.