

SMILE GENERAL PUBLIC MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2014
SMILE Station

blog procedural
www.SellwoodMoreland.org <>> www.SMILErecords.org

OFFICERS PRESENT: President Gail Hoffnagle; Secretary Eric Norberg

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ellen Burr, Brian Posewitz, Nanci Champlin, Nancy Walsh, Corinne Stefanick, Miriam Erb

President Gail Hoffnagle called the meeting to order at 7:33 pm, asking for introductions around the room. Since there was not yet a quorum, the consideration of the May General Public Meeting minutes for approval was postponed until later.

First on the agenda was Wendy Collins, who planned to discuss the "Village Movement" and "Rise" in Southeast Portland, both dealing with the issue of seniors wanting to "age in place". However, Ms. Collins was not present, and did not arrive at any point during the meeting, so her talk was put off until some other time.

Brian Posewitz was called upon for a Transportation Committee update. Brian pointed out that TriMet plans changes to neighborhood bus service coincident with the start of light rail service next year; a draft proposal from TriMet is expected late this month, with public comments invited in July, and then SMILE plans to review the proposal with the intent of weighing in on it in August. He said that, in his local discussions, it is pretty clear people do want the bus on Tacoma to go all the way down the ramp into the new light rail station at Tacoma and McLoughlin, and apparently TriMet currently simply expects to stop the bus on the Tacoma overcrossing, and people are to walk down the long ramp to the station themselves, which could be as much as a hundred yards -- not necessarily pleasant at night or in bad weather.

As concerns the planned restriping of the intersection of Tacoma and S.E. 17th, the delay in painting the new eastbound lane arrangement on Tacoma turns out to be because PDOT plans to do some repaving in the intersection, and won't paint till that is done -- which should be by September.

Nanci Champlin next presented a S.N.A.C. committee update. For the Sellwood Gap project on the Springwater Corridor, the design process will go to the public before the end of summer. She summarized the work done on this up to now by the committee. As for the Oaks Bottom Overlook Park: A neighbor recently donated a split-rail fence, which has been installed; and a Boy Scout is building amenities for the park as his Eagle Scout project.

And, she revealed, a grant of about \$1,200 has just been received towards completing the habitat in that park.

Ellen Burr then arose to give a Land Use Committee report. The committee now has seven members; and she proceeded to give a summary of recent issues, including the Harold Street condominium development which was the subject of a presentation to the SMILE Board in May. The Land Use Committee is also looking into an issue involving the Oregon Yacht Club having cut down some cottonwood trees illegally. She concluded by discussing ways for getting more citizen input on development issues; that's the subject of a major meeting this very evening at Concordia University arranged by Southeast Uplift.

Nancy Walsh was then called upon for a report on Sundae in the Park; she chairs the committee planning it, and there are just two months to go till the event on August 3rd, with our part taking place noon till 4. Parks will provide entertainment after that, leading up to a showing of the movie "Back to the Future" at dusk. Nancy ordered the ice cream -- this year, from Umpqua Dairy -- just the other day, and is now looking for a couple of used chest freezers to hold the ice cream between its delivery and the event on Sunday; if found, we hope to buy them.

The flyer for the event needs to be done within two weeks to get it into the July BEE, as well as to start distributing it in the community; and we are already looking for merchant donations of gift certificates and prizes we can give away both in the raffle and in the bingo games at Sundae in the Park.

Nancy chairs the Church Committee; there was nothing new to report, except that wedding bookings are picking up now, but SMILE's role as booking agent for the historic Oaks Pioneer Church on Spokane at S.E. Grand was explained to those present.

Nancy Walsh also chairs the SMILE Station Committee, and she asked anyone who banks at the Sellwood Key Bank to make a point of thanking them for having donated staff time recently for yard work at SMILE Station. (We have also thanked the bank directly as an organization for this.)

Gail Hoffnagle then reported on her meeting last Wednesday to attempt reactivating the SMILE Crime Committee; 8 to 10 people came; it was a good meeting. We have been alerted by Jacob Brostoff, Inner Southeast's city crime prevention expert, that social media use in the community seems to promote hysteria and a vigilante mentality about crime; that is a concern. SMILE is planning on restarting the crime e-mail listserv. Gail is prodding Central Precinct for a return to monthly police officer reports at the SMILE General Public Meetings; we haven't had a single visit since the last time we prodded hard -- and three officers showed up at the same meeting!

There followed a general discussion about crime, the importance of reporting crime, police presence and what affects it, and related matters.

By this time a quorum had been attained, and President Hoffnagle asked for a review of the May General Meeting minutes. Several typos were identified and flagged for correction, after which Will Rogers moved the minutes be approved as amended; Nanci Champlin seconded; and the motion carried unanimously.

With the meeting nearing its end, a late-comer arose and asked to speak briefly. He identified himself as Michael Sonnleitner, PhD, a Political Science teacher at the Portland Community College Cascade Campus on North Killingsworth Street. He lives in Montavilla on S.E. 80th Avenue, and at one time lived in Sellwood, and still comes to Mike's Drive In for hamburgers.

He said he is going to run, in May 2015, for a seat on the PCC Board of Directors, mainly out of concern that the Board has never had faculty representation and appears somewhat out of touch with the teaching end of things. He wanted to know more about Inner Southeast these days, and asked for anyone who wanted to chat further about this to stay after the meeting and speak with him.

There being no other business, President Gail Hoffnagle announced the meeting as being adjourned, at 8:26 pm.