

SMILE BOARD MEETING

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2014

SMILE Station

blog

procedural

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OFFICERS PRESENT: Gail Hoffnagle, President; Mat Millenbach, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ellen Burr; Nanci Champlin; Brian Posewitz; Corinne Stefanick; Nancy Walsh; Bob Burkholder

SMILE President Gail Hoffnagle called the meeting to order at 7:29 pm, and began by asking for introductions around the room. She then asked the Board members present to review the minutes of the October 15 Board meeting. A correction was offered, and Mat Millenbach moved the minutes be accepted as amended, and Nanci Champlin seconded the motion, which then passed without objection.

Nanci Champlin and Elizabeth Milner next presented a synopsis of the development of the Oaks Bottom Overlook pocket park -- in the form of a short film. They then requested the use of some of the remaining funds of the Friends of Oaks Bottom Committee to help with signage for the park. Corinne Stefanick moved that \$1,000.00 be spent, and Brian Posewitz seconded. Mark Wilson, a former Chair of the currently inactive Friends of Oaks Bottom Committee, advocated for spending the committee's money in this fashion. The motion carried with one abstention.

Robin Jenkinsen of the Johnson Creek Watershed Council arose to ask the Board's permission to apply for an EMCWSD small grant, in conjunction with SMILE's SNAC committee, for "a little project in the neighborhood", which she described. The plan centers on S.E. 21st and Spokane Street along Crystal Springs Creek, and has been endorsed by the Crystal Springs Creek restoration group. The proposed partnership with SNAC would be beneficial, she said, because it is a SMILE neighborhood project, and it would also increase the chances of getting the grant. Signage, art, and plants would be involved, and SMILE would not be expected to participate financially in the project. She would write the grant request. Mat Millenbach made a motion that SMILE authorize the partnership of SNAC with JCWC in seeking the grant, Pat Hainley seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Nanci Champlin was next, to report on the Sellwood Gap Project on the Springwater Trail. The SNAC committee had expected to develop one option to proceed with in the Sellwood Gap from among the various concepts offered, but the committee was split between two, so SNAC is going to offer two to the public and

seek consensus on the final choice to recommend to the SMILE Board. Consequently there will be at least one public forum at SMILE Station for this purpose, and online voting as well.

Landscape Designer Deven Young then arose to discuss the two options; the difference between the two is the spacial layout: One is much more open down the middle ("meadow"), and the second centers around an arboreal theme, although Michael Hayes observed that with the same large tree in both plans, the area under the tree will be open in both cases due to the effect of shading by the tree. The first option would require twice-a-year mowing -- but both would have similar maintenance requirements. There was some discussion on how public input should be sought, and SMILE's role in the final choice. Pat Hainley pointed out that both options are beneficial, so it is not critical which of the two is ultimately chosen. Mat Millenbach made a motion that the SNAC committee poll the people who have been in the public involvement process on these options, and have THEM vote for one of the two options. Pat Hainley seconded. The motion carried without objection.

Next, President Hoffnagle asked the Board's permission to seek a grant from Southeast Uplift to promote emergency preparedness in our neighborhood, and include funds for an online "Survey Monkey" subscription for neighborhood feedback. The grant would amount to \$3,700, she estimated. Mat Millenbach made a motion that such a grant request be prepared by Gail, and Pat Hainley seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Hoffnagle proceeded with the next agenda item, which was a request from the "United Neighborhoods for Reform" to consider and vote on a resolution they had prepared against demolition and development. They want it passed or rejected by the Board as written, without modification. Eric Norberg commented that he could not vote for it because one clause in it would prevent building a standard two-story house in at least one section of Westmoreland, which he thought too restrictive. Other Board members had reservations about other parts of the document. Ellen Burr gave the background of the committee and their resolution. Ellen then made a motion that the resolution document be tabled for more examination. Nancy Walsh seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ellen Burr then reported briefly for the Land Use Committee.

Pat Hainley presented his proposed SMILE budget for the fiscal year starting October 1, for 2014-15. Eric Norberg moved the budget be approved and Mat Millenbach seconded. Then various Board members asked questions about aspects of the proposed budget. The question was eventually called, and the approval of the budget as submitted carried unanimously.

In his Transportation Committee Report, Brian Posewitz said that, in the light of TriMet seemingly dismissing any further service on the line, he is willing to further advocate for extended hours of service on Express Bus 99 when the MAX service begins and the new Sellwood Bridge opens -- the bus is slated to have three stops in Sellwood and only operate in weekday commute hours. He asked the Board if he should "keep the pressure on" about this, and informally, the Board indicated to him to "go for it". And while he is at it, Board members suggested, he should pursue a response from the city on our letter months ago about the abuse of the "street party" rule being used for weekly commercial purposes. The rule, the Board indicated, needs to be tightened to be limited to isolated one-time street party closures, as originally intended.

A Sunnyside Neighborhood resident who once lived in Sellwood, Marianne Schwab, asked the Board's indulgence to bring up an issue in her neighborhood concerning a public space matter in the new city Comprehensive Plan. She was given some time to do so.

There being no other business on the agenda or offered from the Board, Brian Posewitz moved the meeting be adjourned, and Nancy Walsh seconded the motion, which carried unanimously at 9:18 pm.