

SMILE Board Meeting Minutes

August 19, 2020

Via ZOOM videoconferencing

Main Website

Procedural

www.SellwoodMoreland.org <<>> www.SMILErecords.org

OFFICERS PRESENT: Simon Fulford, President; Bob Burkholder, Vice President; Pat Hainley, Treasurer; Eric Norberg, Secretary

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Elaine O’Keefe, Rhea Smith, Jim Friscia, Elizabeth Milner, Juliana James, Alison Daniel, Priyesh Krishnan, Neal Spinler

ALSO ATTENDING: R. Corless, Ashley Asbjornson, Melissa Mattson, Lisa Sloan, Christina Timberlake, Kim Borcharding, and “Lillian” [no surname given]

Due to social distancing measures ordered by the State of Oregon to avoid spreading the COVID-19 coronavirus, this meeting was conducted online using the ZOOM application, with advance notice of the meeting having been made online – advising how any interested persons could join it by requesting the admission code, and as noted above, a number did.

Newly-elected President Simon Fulford called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., and began by welcoming the new Board, after the annual Board Election on August 5; and then went on to explain the procedures and protocols in effect for the meeting. Then, noting that a quorum of the Board was indeed present, he asked for a review of three sets of minutes – of the July Board Meeting, the August Special Board Meeting, and the August Board Meeting. After that review, Elaine moved that all three sets of minutes be approved as submitted; Rhea Smith seconded the motion; and the motion carried unanimously.

First to present to the Board was Christina Timberlake, who is employed by SMILE to upgrade the Oaks Pioneer Church booking system and increase rental income there, and eventually to do the same for SMILE Station. Despite COVID-19, she said there has been a general uptrend in church bookings for weddings and elopements, and the August through October period “looks great”, as does next spring. She gave a detailed update to the Board. She has accomplished infrastructure cost savings, she said, and now would like to acquire “Event Temple” booking software, which “is tailored to our needs”. Elaine O’Keefe pointed out the important capabilities it could provide – which include creating a detailed and permanent booking history. Chris also answered questions from new Board Member Neal Spinler. Eric Norberg moved, and Pat Hainley seconded, that SMILE approve this software acquisition. The motion passed unanimously.

Jim Friscia, newly returned to the SMILE Board, was next on the agenda; he distributed to the Board his proposal that SMILE repurpose the \$1,000 budgeted for the July Sellwood Park concert series, this year – which did not take place due to the state coronavirus restrictions – by using them to fund a series of live music events, by one or two local music performers each time, at locations within the “Sellwood Square” project in which, through November 1, portions of streets in Sellwood are to be closed for merchant events. He said that local businessman Tom Brown is willing to contribute an additional \$1,000 (for which

SMILE should send a letter of acknowledgement) – and, if the performances continue into October, Jim would seek another \$600 to \$1000 “to get all the musicians paid”. Donations from the public would also be welcome; Neal Spinier suggested a way to accept such donations without extra charges. Pat Hainley said he was worried about maintaining social distancing if there are to be performers entertaining in a given location, however. Nonetheless, Elaine O’Keefe moved that the requested \$1,000 from the Summer Concerts budget item this year be reallocated to this purpose, “to help local businesses”, and that SMILE would act as the fiscal agent to pay the performing talent. Eric Norberg seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The last agenda item of the evening brought us Lisa Sloan, the temporary Manager of the Sellwood Community House, through its current contract with the Page Two Partners nonprofit. She summarized her written request, which had been previously distributed to SMILE Board Members; and Juliana James made a motion that SMILE approve this request from the Helen Hiczun dedicated funds for the Sellwood Community House, and she also volunteered to write grant requests for Sellwood Community House.

Pat Hainley clarified that the new requested sum is in addition to the prior grant which underwrote the reorganization intervention of SCH by the Page Two Partners, although Lisa Sloan commented that things are going so well that she need not be in charge for the whole contracted term, and thus the former appropriation is unlikely to be fully used. The new grant will fund any operation costs that exceed income, through the end of next June.

Bob Burkholder pointed out that the building will need a new roof and other capital improvements; but Lisa told him that the current \$1 annual lease to the Friends of Sellwood Community House has been extended another year (before the anticipated purchase for \$1), and that capital improvements will not take place until SCH owns its own building. Elaine O’Keefe remarked that she does see a need for the Friends of Sellwood Community House to investigate and determine needed infrastructure repairs and improvements, however.

Lisa told the SMILE Board that the requested funds will be requested in increments over the forthcoming nine months. At this point, Eric Norberg seconded the motion previously made by Juliana James, which Simon Fulford then recapped as being distributed in three tranches every three months, and Juliana accepted the clarification to her motion. Melissa Mattern spoke glowingly of Lisa’s accomplishments over the past month, and thanked Pat Hainley for his help and guidance. The question was called, and the motion carried without objection – but with one abstention, in acknowledgement of a possible conflict of interest.

As the meeting approached its conclusion, R. Corless made a Crime Prevention Committee report: The homeless group camping between S.E. Ochoco and Linn Streets on 19th Avenue has grown from two to six tents; she has discussed with the camp leader being considerate of the neighbors, hoping to address some reported irritants. She said if anyone has an issue with a homeless camp nearby, it can be reported on the webpage of the Portland Office of Community and Civic Life, and also anyone is welcome to talk with her personally about this as well.

Pat Hainley then suggested adjournment – and President Simon Fullford proceeded to announce the meeting as now being adjourned at 9:16 p.m.