

# SMILE General Meeting minutes

October 7, 2020

**Via ZOOM, online**

## Main Website

[www.SellwoodMoreland.org](http://www.SellwoodMoreland.org)

## Procedural

[www.SMILErecords.org](http://www.SMILErecords.org)

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

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Juliana James; Allison Daniel; Rhea Smith; Neal Spinler; Jim Friscia; Elaine O’Keefe

**SMILE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:** R. Corless; Claire Wilkinson; Rowdy Bossard; Allan Cordova, Heather Katcher; Adam Seidman; Jan Hainley; Michael Kennedy; James Cruz; Greg Bourget (“Sliver”)

**ADDITIONAL GUEST:** Portland City Commissioner Amanda Fritz

President Simon Fulford called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. He began the meeting by inviting a review of the August and September General Meeting minutes, a quorum having been attained. Both sets of minutes had been sent to those who signed up to attend this meeting, and also were posted in draft form all month on the SMILE Procedural website. Juliana James moved that both sets of minutes be approved as submitted; Pat Hainley seconded the motion; and the motion carried without objections or abstentions.

First to speak was Rowdy Bossard, who introduced Greg Bourget of “Portland Clean Air”. Bourget deplored emissions from “dirty diesel” trucks – three quarters of which have no filters, he said. The State of Oregon is still not restricting the use of older diesel trucks, which are responsible for particulate emissions – and since Washington and California do restrict these trucks, they are sold into and used in Oregon. So, he said, “Portland Clean Air” is now negotiating directly with owners of large fleets of such trucks (the “worst polluters”) to mitigate the problem that way. The organization is also setting up air monitors mounted on bicycles as “moving air monitors”. He took and answered questions.

Bob Burkholder was next on the agenda, and introduced Adam Seidman, once the Manager of the Moreland Farmers Market, who is an active member of the Inner Southeast N.E.T. (“Neighborhood Emergency Team”) – in which there are 67 trained N.E.T. members, some more active than others, who are drawn from and also serve Sellwood, Westmoreland, Eastmoreland, Woodstock, and Brooklyn. After much training, Adam said, he and the local N.E.T. team were first actually deployed twice in September – once after the freak windstorm in mid-month, to stand by over downed trees and power lines so firefighters could remain available for other incidents; and then at the height of the wildfire evacuations in Clackamas County, to run the entire evacuation operation at Clackamas Town Center – an operation that required 150 shifts, covered by 120 N.E.T. volunteers. Adam was the Incident Commander, and he said Sellwood-Westmoreland was the only neighborhood with two N.E.T. members involved in this operation, in which N.E.T. volunteers from the entire City of Portland participated. Alan said the local N.E.T. learned much from this experience,

and now knows it needs many additional specific types of supplies to make the team more effective in the event of a massive emergency in Portland. He said that would be the subject of a later conversation with SMILE, perhaps – and thanked SMILE for permitting N.E.T. use of SMILE Station.

Jim Friscia reported on the “September Sounds” Saturday afternoon live music performances on S.E. Nehalem Street, as part of the “Sellwood Square” project: “It was a very successful series.” The concerts occurred on five consecutive Saturdays, starting August 29 – but one September Saturday was skipped due to the heavy, extremely hazardous wildfire smoke that day – but the missing concert was made up on October 3. Jim was congratulated by those at the meeting for putting this together in a short time frame. Jim offered his thanks to the many others who had volunteered to help with these concerts.

Clare Wilkinson returned to SMILE for an update on the Multnomah County Library system. She said that there is no set date for when the Sellwood Branch Library might reopen; “it is too small for social distancing”. There were none of the feared layoffs in the library system after all – even though all the county libraries are currently closed to the public – with the exception of one employee whose job was eliminated, and chose to decline the offer of an alternate position. She added that passing the November Library Levy will allow the renovation of seven branch libraries (but neither the Sellwood Library nor the Woodstock Library are included in these renovation plans), and would also permit the building of a new “flagship library” in East Portland.

Heather Katcher, who has lived in this neighborhood for a year and a half, was present to tell how she had organized – with the help Solve and PP&R – a cleanup for the Springwater Corridor set for this Saturday. No additional volunteers are needed.

Last to appear, via ZOOM, was outgoing Portland City Commissioner Amanda Fritz, who was present at her own request to advocate for three measures on the November ballot, placed there by the City Council: The first is a five-year levy for Portland Parks, to generate enough funds for a Bureau that suffered many deep cuts this year, to “maintain natural spaces, restart programs, and make a more equitable park system”. The second ballot measure would establish framework for a new board to oversee the police. The third measure would mandate that the Portland Water Bureau allow “best use of water properties in the city’s neighborhoods”. She answered questions after her presentation.

When these questions had been answered – the meeting having run past its scheduled end time – President Simon Fulford then declared the meeting adjourned, at 9:06 p.m.