

SMILE General Meeting minutes

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

SMILE Station

Main Website

Procedural

www.SellwoodMoreland.org <>> 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, Suzanne Kruze

SMILE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Ed Nunez, Paula Sorenson, Lance Goldenberg, Page Moya, David & Kelley Stipe, Creed Bruce; and Stan & Brenda Scrutton *[via ZOOM]*

GUESTS: King Tran, Paula Sorenson, Connie Shipley

The meeting was called to order by SMILE President David Dugan at 7:36 p.m. He led self-introductions of everyone present, around the room – but a quorum had not yet been attained, and so no consideration for approval of the December and February General Meetings could take place.

President Dugan pointed out that tonight’s SMILE General Meeting was taking place in the newly repaired and restored upstairs main meeting room at SMILE Station, and that the downstairs winter-storm-related repairs – of the newly-remodeled office and meeting room there – was also almost complete, so there is to be a public Open House of SMILE Station in mid-May.

First on the agenda was King Tran, who is Portland’s “Safe Blocks Program Coordinator”, who explained that the purpose of the program is to ensure that all city residents feel “safe and connected”. Part of the program includes workshops on elements of these goals, which does include self-defense workshops for women and youth. Mr. Tran said he is currently working to revive the “Neighborhood Watch” program, elements of which he discussed. He is also a helpful resource for those wanting to have neighborhood “block parties” in Portland neighborhoods this summer. He concluded his presentation by answering questions from those present.

Next to present was Royal Rosarian Connie Shipley, who for the second year will be the Rose Festival’s organizer of the final official event of the year’s Portland Rose Festival, the Milk Carton Boat Races at Westmoreland Park’s historic Casting Pond. The date this year will be Sunday, June 27 – and she went on to explain the features of the event this year, including the newly-imposed age categories for the competition, which are intended to enhance the fun for the kids and teens participating (these age categories were enumerated on a flyer she distributed, which is incorporated into these minutes by reference, and is also available for reference on the Rose Festival website). There will be a public

workshop on May 18th at Duniway Elementary School in Eastmoreland on how to build milk carton boats.

There will be a limitation on the number of boats that can be accommodated in these races, so she advised that those seeking to race sign up early. Empty milk cartons for boat construction will be available at the main sponsor's location, Alpenrose Dairy at 16940 S.E. 130th Avenue in Clackamas – and also at the secondary sponsors' locations – selected Les Schwab Tire Stores – at 2500 S.E. Tacoma in Sellwood, 16650 S.E. Division Street, and 2140 N.E. Columbia Boulevard. In each of these four locations they will be available Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., from now until June 15.

For the large crowd of Milk Carton Boat Race spectators (last year, there were over a thousand), there will be activities – as well as the fun and spectacle of the races themselves. Boat inspection starts at 10 a.m., and the races start at noon. It'll all be over by midafternoon.

The last major item on the meeting agenda was the upcoming annual SMILE Board Election, at the monthly SMILE General Meeting in May – which this year will be on May first. Nominations and self-nominations are now open, and this year's Election Committee is engaged in seeking nominees and arranging the election details. The election will again be overseen, and the vote counted, by a representative of our Neighborhood Coalition, nonprofit Southeast Uplift.

The Board Members on our Election Committee this year are Elaine O'Keefe and Tracy Fisher. President Dugan spoke on details of the process, and encouraged any SMILE member interested in doing so to run for one of the four one-year officer positions, or for one of the four open at-large Board Seats (at large Board Members serve two years; this year there will be a fifth seat open, due to a resignation, for a one-year term completion). He reminded everyone that even those not choosing to run for the Board also have a role they can play at SMILE, as a volunteer – including volunteering to be a member of SMILE's many committees.

President Dugan, finding that we still were two SMILE Members short of a quorum, postponed consideration of the pending two sets of minutes for approval at the May meeting, and then declared this meeting adjourned, at 8:22 p.m.