

## **West Keizer Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes**

**March 10, 2016**

**Keizer Civic Center, Iris B Room**

**Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA secretary**

**Call to order** – President Gary Blake called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center and welcomed approximately 15 people, including guest speaker Anne-Marie Storms and Craig Murphy, Keizertimes. Introductions were made around the room and Gary asked everyone to sign in.

**Approval of Minutes for February 11, 2016** – Vice President Rhonda Rich said these had been distributed online. Art Mauer moved for approval and Rhonda seconded. Motion carried.

**Budget for 2015-16** – Rhonda reported expenditures of \$182.99 (\$100 for the new WKNA logo and \$82.99 for printing) out of the \$500 2015-16 budget. The Board just OK'd spending for brochures (\$180) and website renewal (\$100) for this year. The Board also approved seeking \$500 for 2016-17.

**Presentation by Keizer Fire District on Emergency Preparedness, Anne-Marie Storms, Public Education Specialist** – Preparing for an earthquake or other disaster is a “hot topic” now because of discussions of the predicted Cascadia quake, among other things, but it's been important for years.

It's difficult, she said, because we don't know exactly what we're preparing for. We know “it” will happen, but have no idea when or how big it will be. Why prepare? Earthquakes happen without warning and the Cascadia quake is predicted to be 9.0, which is huge. That will take out everything – power, water, roads, communications, etc. – and it could be 6 months to 2 years for the area to recover.

To get ready, she had some general advice:

Look for safe places to take cover, including doorways and under tables. Practice getting to these safe places. If you practice, she said, you'll be more ready to act when the time comes. Go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for more tips. Pinterest is another great information source.

Be aware of your surroundings. Secure heavy items that might fall. We're pretty good about water heaters, she said, but little else. Fasten bookcases, refrigerators, etc., to the wall. Use museum putty to secure large vases or other pieces that might fall from shelves.

Have an emergency kit, starting with supplies for 72 hours, but best for up to 2 weeks.

Have a family plan with designated meeting places and multiple communication plans. Designate an out-of-state contact. A long distance call may go through even when local lines are jammed.

Know the location of emergency mass shelters and have a mobile emergency kit to take with you in case of evacuation. These locations likely will be broadcast at the time of a disaster. Note: FEMA will not show up for 2 weeks or so.

During a quake: Drop, cover and hold on to the table leg! You don't want the table “walking” away. If it's night, stay in bed and cover up with blankets and pillows for padding or get to a doorway. If you're in a car, stop and stay inside. Don't park under a power line, big tree, etc.

After the quake: Assess your situation. See if you have a path to safety and take it. Head to high ground if you're in a tsunami zone (the Valley is not a tsunami zone).

If you're trapped, don't move around and kick up dust. Try to call if you have cell service. Tap on a pipe or wall to alert others to your location.

Monitor the news for emergency information.

Prepare to drop, cover and hold on during aftershocks.

In planning, think baby steps. Make a plan for your entire family, but start with a 72-hour kit. Then prepare food, water and supplies for 2 weeks. Then think about a 3-month supply. The LDS church recommends a year's provisions and they are a valuable source of information on preparations.

She recommended a big tote with individually packaged items for each family member, or maybe backpacks or an old suitcase -- whatever you have that works for you.

A 72-hour kit: 1 gallon of water/person/day (There is 50-year shelf-life canned water!)

Food – Easy to make items, like canned soup, peanut butter, pasta, dry milk, power bars. Think protein and calories to meet people's energy needs. MREs (meals ready to eat) are an option.

Other items: Manual can opener (or make sure all cans are pop top), basic utensils, paper plates, Make it portable and include a few treats for the kids. A small thing that can bring a bit of happiness is a valuable commodity in the wake of a disaster.

She packs one bag with 2,300 calories, which could be a 2-day ration. Utensils go in the bag.

Remember kids need more calories and they're grumpy when they're hungry.

Make a note of expiration dates on the bag so foods can be rotated as necessary.

Health supplies: Do you or family members have special needs, including your pets? Try for at least a 3-day supply of prescription drugs. Pack extra hearing aid batteries, over-the-counter needs such as Tums, Tylenol, etc., toilet paper, soap, deodorant, baby wipes, toothbrush/paste/floss, extra contact lenses or glasses (pack an old pair, which would do in a pinch). Pedialyte, in case of tummy issues.

Safety supplies: A first aid kit, emergency blanket, multi-purpose tool, whistle, zip ties. A trip to the dollar store can inexpensively outfit you with scissors, tape, multi-head screwdriver, an air horn, gloves, clothesline, ear plugs (great in an emergency shelter environment) bandana, Sharpie markers, pens, pencils, paper, etc.

Electronics: Multiple flashlights, a battery powered radio (she ordered a solar-powered/crank powered model through Amazon that will also charge a cell phone), cell phone and charger (an old model, if you have it, could be moved to the emergency kit and used to make calls), extra batteries!

Documents – Send extra copies out of state and/or copy to a thumb drive: insurance cards, immunization records, paperwork about any serious, ongoing medication condition, your emergency plan, birth certificates, etc. Maps – you might need one to identify a route to an emergency shelter, for instance.

Cash – Have some extra funds in small bills.

For kids – baby supplies (diapers, formula, baby food); games and activities. Maybe even some items to keep adults entertained (games, deck of cards)

Pets – A three-day of supply of food at least; water – 1 gallon for 3 days; bowls or bottles; litter box; paper towels; plastic trash bags; bleach; grooming items; any medicines; vet records in a waterproof container; leash; carrier; some toys; a current picture of your pet, in case you get separated.

Pack individual bottles of water for everyone. You can write names on them with the Sharpie and it's a way to monitor fluid intake.

Bleach is GOLD – It sanitizes things and you can make potable water with one capful of bleach/gallon of water.

Tape is great – you can use to make a shelter or a splint, for instance.

Misc. items: Hand sanitizer, bar soap, dish soap, matches and a lighter (make sure they're waterproof), a trowel (you may need to dig a trench for potty needs!); blankets, old tennis shoes and some extra clothes for all family members, dishes, knife, trash bags, hotel-size shampoo, conditioner, etc.; extra tools; plastic containers and plastic bags; a tarp.

Think camping equipment for long-term preparations – tent, sleeping bags, cook stove, etc.

Store emergency items on an outside wall or a shed for easier access in the aftermath of a quake.

When putting your kit together, put the heavy items on the bottom. And think about what size and weight you can move and load up when you're putting a kit together.

She also recommended a kit for your cars with clothes, shoes, gloves, some food, wipes, etc.

The main thing is to remember that something is better than nothing. As Ben Franklin said, "By failing to prepare, you are preparing to fail." As Anne-Marie said, "Be prepared, don't be scared."

She invited everyone to mark their calendars for the Keizer Fire District's open house this fall – 6:30-8:30 Oct. 10.

### **Neighborhood Business**

**KMUZ interview March 8 at 8:10 a.m.** – WKNA representatives Carolyn Homan and Carol Doerfler were interviewed as part of local radio station KMUZ's Willamette Wakeup program. Neighbors can access a podcast via the website, [www.KMUZ.org](http://www.KMUZ.org)

**Public Testimony at March 7 council meeting** – Rhonda noted that Carolyn, WKNA secretary, extended an invitation to the community to attend WKNA's next meeting, and announced that the scheduled Chemawa Road Adopt-A-Street cleanup for Saturday had been cancelled (the next one will be in June) and the association continues with the beautification program at Cummings Elementary School with Carol Doerfler planting pansies at the reader board.

**Adopt-A-Street** – As noted above, the Saturday clean-up is cancelled but neighbors are helping with the Keizer Community Center cleanup, set for 9 a.m. to noon. City councilwoman Kim Freeman advised participants to bring heavy gloves because of bush trimmings that have large spines. Volunteer check-in will be on the east side of the Community Center, between it and the Heritage Center.

Kim said the long-range planning meeting re: the city's budget will be the second Monday in April. That meeting is open to all. She said the Quality Inn hotel has been busy the past year so there will be some extra funds generated by the room tax.

She noted a special event April 27 sponsored by Claggett Creek Watershed Council. There will be a documentary film and other events. Details are on the website.

There is an open council position. Details as to the application process will be on the city website soon. Candidates will make a 5-minute presentation in April and a selection will be made at that time.

**Upcoming meetings** – The next WKNA Board meeting will be Thursday, April 7 at 6 p.m. at Rhonda Rich's house.

The next WKNA general meeting is at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 14, at the Keizer Civic Center. The topic is a presentation by Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Council member Mark Callier.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

