

WKNA General Meeting

March 9, 2023 7 p.m.

At Keizer Civic Center Joint session with the other 4 Keizer NAs

Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA Secretary

About 50 people in attendance, including Guest Speaker Mayor Cathy Clark; Adam Brown, Keizer City Manager; and Councilors Laura Reid, Dan Kohler, Shaney Starr and Robert Husseman.

Call to Order: WKNA President Rhonda Rich called the meeting order at 7 p.m. Neighborhood Association Presidents Patti Tischer, Greater Gubser NA; Tammy Kunz, Greater NE Keizer NA, Ken Gierloff, SE Keizer NA; and Rhonda, WKNA, gave brief presentations on recent NA accomplishments, meeting times, etc.

Guest Speaker, Keizer Mayor Cathy Clark -- Rhonda introduced the Mayor to present a “State of the City” address that focused on an overview of the past year but also a bit of a retrospective of Keizer’s 40 years as a city. The city is planning a 40th birthday part June 16-17 to celebrate that milestone.

She said the city council has just embarked on a strategic planning process that will culminate in a five-year plan for the city. This 40th year anniversary as a city will be a watershed year, she said, with turnover of several veteran staff members. City Recorder Tracy Davis and Police Chief John Teague are retiring this year and City Attorney Shannon Johnson and Human Resources Director Machell DePina will retire next year.

She noted highlights of the year from around city and regional government, including Parks (the turn fields being planned at Keizer Rapids Park); traffic safety (the new flashing speed signs on Shoreline and the planned speed table to come at Cummings Lane and Delight); transportation (work on the Metropolitan Traffic Safety Plan), transit (the highly successful Youth Zero fare making bus transit free to those 18 and under), and the major issue of homelessness being addressed by the Mid-Willamette Valley Homeless Alliance, which she chairs.

In a brief Q and A period, she noted that there will be a chance for public input at some point during the strategic planning process. Council will set goals for this year by the end of April and then use the strategic plan to set goals beginning next year.

Next meetings:

March 13 – Keizer United, noon at City Hall

March 14 – Parks Advisory Board, 6 p.m. City Hall; Cummings PTC

March 16 -- Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee, 6 p.m. City Hall

April 6 – Candidate Forum for May Special District Elections (Salem-Keizer School Board, Chemeketa Community College Board, Keizer Fire District Board, Marion Co. Fire District Board) coordinated by Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association jointly with the other Keizer NAs.

April 13 – WKNA General meeting, 7 p.m. City Hall, guest speaker from Oregon Guided Kayak Tours LLC/Salem Kayak Rentals

Go to www.westkeizerna.org or Facebook for current information

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.