

West Keizer Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes
Nov. 12, 2015

Keizer Civic Center
Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA secretary

Call to order – President Rhonda Rich called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center and welcomed approximately 18 people, including guest speakers Diane Child, Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services; Skye Hibbard-Swanson, JustWalk Salem; and Eric Bandonis, Marion County Sheriff Office parole and probation officer. Introductions were made around the room. Rhonda noted that this is her 10th year as president and that the WKNA annual meeting and officer elections will be held in January.

Approval of Minutes for October, 2015 – Clint Holland moved for approval and Carol Doerfler seconded. Motion carried.

Budget for 2015-16 – Rhonda reported expenditures of \$100 for the new WKNA logo, which can be seen on the website and the Facebook page. The budget is \$500 for the year.

Presentations:

Eric Bandonis, Marion Co. Sheriff's officer – He noted a 2.2% caseload increase from October 2014 to October 2015, with 79 more clients, although no causes have been identified. He said the department is hiring more probation/parole officers. He answered a few questions, including how long probation typically lasts – generally 12 months to 5 years. How many times he sees a client depends on their risk level. Usually it's one time a month for a "medium" risk client; others he sees two times a month. Clients are assigned by the court to a parole officer. They meet at his office (he's housed at Keizer Police Department) but he also goes to their home and/or workplace to make sure they are complying with the conditions of their parole. They refer clients to various resources to help them, including an employment counselor and substance abuse treatment if they can't afford it or they don't have insurance coverage.

Skye Hibbard-Swanson, JustWalk Salem – She is with Oregon State University Extension/Marion County and is facilitating a grant from Salem Health to fund neighborhood walking groups to promote good health in the community. The effort just sponsored its first Keizer walk in conjunction with Keizer Fire Department. KFD community education specialist Anne Marie Storms is organizing walks every Tuesday, starting at 10 a.m. at Panera Bread in Keizer Station and following the walking path around Keizer Station.

The idea is to provide walking partners and safe routes, Hibbard-Swanson said. Participants are eligible for discounts at IKE Box coffee house and LifeSource in Salem. The program is sponsoring a Holly Lights Walk through the Gubser neighborhood's Miracle of Christmas Lights displays. Participants should meet at 6 p.m. at 14th and Marigold for a 2-mile stroll through the displays. If possible, participants are asked to bring a food donation for Marion-Polk Food Share.

To find a walking group go to justwalksalem.com, [facebook.com/justwalksalem](https://www.facebook.com/justwalksalem) or phone 503-373-3760. There are at least 17 JustWalk groups on various days at various starting times and about half are dog friendly. Participants can just show up – there is no need to register.

Identity theft, Diane Child, Outreach Coordinator with Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services – She outlined the need to protect your personal identity, including your Social Security, driver's license and credit card numbers and information. She distributed a brochure outlining the 2007 Oregon Identity Theft Protection Act, including what constitutes personal information; some tips on preventing theft of your ID, including a security freeze; and immediate action to take if ID theft occurs.

Child said businesses that ask for your personal information should have a plan in place to protect it. The Social Security number is the most coveted. If you're asked for it, ask why. This card should never be carried and should be kept in a safe place in your home. The Medicare card also has your SS# and should be kept safe.

Sources of ID theft include data breaches, phishing schemes, theft and Dumpster diving, and negligence.

She reviewed details of various ID theft avenues:

- Data breaches – mainly done by organized crime and big operations. She advised taking care to keep your computer virus protection up to date.
- Tax fraud – \$5.8 billion in fraudulent tax refunds in 2013. She advising filing early and reporting any problem immediately to IRS.
- Offers of "free" trips – Usually these involve providing a credit card for incidentals. You never get the trip.
- Emails – Scrutinize these. She got one that included the Amazon logo, but reading through she noticed several misspellings and the offer was obviously bogus. Be wary of links in emails.
- Requests that you do a survey for a gift card – They just want your email. You can send these to spam or report to UCE.gov. which is affiliated with the FBI.

- Texts that ask you to text back to stop further messages – DON'T. The sender just wants confirmation that the phone number is valid.

- Social media – Be careful of letting people know you are not at home.

Prevention, computer and cell phone – Get and update virus and malware protection; routinely update phone apps – many updates actually are security patches; create strong passwords and keep a paper log in a safe place (keeping the password list on your computer really isn't safe).

Job seekers – beware of fake sites, an offer that says “we found your resume online” or “no experience necessary,” anything that requires an upfront fee or asks for your Social Security number up front.

Shred old financial paperwork. Refrain from giving out information – be selective. Clarify the need when you're asked for your SS number; ask if you can use an alternate form of ID. She has set up a junk email account to use for certain occasions, so that if it's misused, it doesn't compromise much.

Phone fraud – Just don't answer. Get caller ID.

Don't carry personal information in your car, including mail. A stolen bill gives thieves the account number.

Detection – Regularly check accounts for unusual charges, be on alert if you get debt collector calls, if bills aren't arriving, or if you have incorrect medical billings. Medical identity theft can have severe consequences.

Get your free credit report annually at 877-322-8228 or www.annualcreditreport.com. She said the advertised “free credit report.com” is not free.

Consider a security freeze. This freezes the credit file maintained by the three national credit reporting agencies: TransUnion, Equifax and Experian. A freeze prevents lenders and others, including thieves, from gaining access to your credit report. It usually will block anyone from opening a new account or borrowing in your name. It will NOT prevent an ID thief from misusing existing credit cards. A freeze costs \$30 (\$10 for each credit reporting agency). You must temporarily or permanently remove a freeze if you want to apply for new credit. This also costs \$10 per credit report agency.

She said a fraud alert is free. In this case, creditors are to call you if someone is trying to open an account.

She advised putting credit card company phone numbers in your phone so you can call immediately if a card is stolen. You should file a police report and close accounts. Document who you talked to. Also file a complaint with the Federal Trade Commission.

If you suffer a data breach, follow the instruction on the letter you get. There is information at www.ftc.gov and www.OnGuardOnline.gov

For other information, go to www.dfcs.oregon.gov and click on Identity Theft.

Neighborhood business:

Little Library – Carol Doerfler was in charge of this new project, located in front of her house at Shoreline and Rafael. She reported that the library is attracting a lot of interest. People are leaving notes of support. The idea is for people to take a book and leave a book, and there are sections for children’s books and books for grownups. The children’s books have been disappearing without replacements, so Carol has replenished the children’s book section.

Palma Ceia Park – Gary Blake, who lives near this park, has been following the issue of a possible sale of this park property. He said he’s learned that the appraisal requested by city council has been put on hold. Neighbors’ main concern was that the city might proceed to a sale without consulting the residents. At this point, it’s vital to stay in contact with the city and emphasize support for keeping the park. City Attorney Shannon Johnson is investigating whether the city even owns the park property. It’s possible the developer set the property aside with a park designation and can’t be sold.

KRP Community Build Playstructure update – Ron Freeman said the committee met last week and will not meet in December. The focus is pursuit of a state grant, being written by Nate Brown and a volunteer who worked for State Parks and administered this grant program. Rhonda asked whether the pathway from the Tate neighborhood was included in the grant. Ron said it was, along with possible rest rooms. The main grant target is a pour-and-play surface to replace the bark chips now being used.

West Keizer Parks update – Clint said no volunteers stepped up to help with leaf removal Sunday at Sunset Park. He said there is \$10,000 left in the Parks Advisory Board’s matching grant program. People with ideas for a park who can come up with labor as a match are eligible to apply for funds.

Clint also reported on a holiday program he’s organizing at the Civic Center Dec. 13. Patrick Lamb will perform. The cost is \$30, which will include a meal. Tickets are available through UpTown Music and KBZY.

City Council update – Kim Freeman started with a request for people to remind their neighbors that the green yard debris garbage container now goes out weekly. Garbage rates went up to cover this and she said a lot of people don’t know about it.

Keizer volunteer opportunities – Keizer Points of Interest Committee has 2 openings.

She reported on concerns voiced by the Traffic/Bikeways/Pedestrians Committee, including no use of cell phones while driving/biking and need for proper lighting on bikes.

The city is gearing up for winter and encourages people to keep leaves out of gutters as the rainy season gets under way.

Keizer Christmas events are on the city website and should be on the Chamber's site, too. The annual parade is December 12.

Kim said Keizer Community Food Bank has had to turn people away because they don't have enough food and Marion-Polk Food Share also is short. The Keizer food bank has been serving 275 people a month. Food donations can be dropped off at the Faith Lutheran Church on River Road Monday evenings and Thursday mornings.

Other business – Rhonda said Salem-Keizer Transit District's budget committee is looking for a citizen member. Details are on the district's website at <http://cherriots.org/budget-committee> or at the Salem-Keizer Transit administration office, Suite 5230, 555 Court Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301/503-588-2424.

Also, Oregon Department of Transportation is holding outreach meetings in November on improving passenger rail between Eugene and Portland. More information is available on that website at <http://eepurl.com/bDuT49>.

Ron and Kim Freeman reported on new Christmas lights that will go up on River Road this year. The LED lights are more energy efficient and will be longer-lasting. The community Christmas tree will have new lights, too. The tree lighting ceremony will be Dec. 1.

Upcoming meetings – The next WKNA general meeting is at 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 14. Election of officers will be held and Mayor Clark is tentatively set as speaker. The February and March general meetings will deal with emergency preparedness in the wake of an earthquake, with speakers on the geology and science of the area's earthquake potential and information on assembling an emergency preparedness kit to last at least 2 weeks.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.