

## **WKNA General Meeting**

**Jan. 12, 2023 7 p.m.**

**At Keizer Civic Center**

**Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA Secretary**

About 20 people in attendance, including speaker Anne Marie Storms, Keizer Fire Deputy Fire Marshal, and City Council liaison Kyle Juran.

**Call to Order:** Rhonda called the meeting order at 7 p.m. Introductions were made around the room

**Minutes from Nov.** – Gary Blake moved approval; Robb Witters seconded. Motion carried.

**Budget Report, Rhonda Rich** – She reported no changes from November, with a balance of \$368.96 remaining from the city-approved \$800 budget. WKNA has the website fee and some other costs yet to cover.

**Guest speaker** – Rhonda introduced Anne Marie Storms, Keizer Fire District Deputy Fire Marshal, to cover emergency preparedness. To start, however, she noted that KFD is turning 75 this year and wants to contact all those who have volunteered through the years. If you volunteered or know of someone who did, please let her know so they can be honored as part of the 75<sup>th</sup> celebration. There is an information signup link at <https://keizerfire.com>

In terms of emergency preparedness, the Cascadia earthquake is a main issue but she pointed out that the major forest fire disasters in recent years have made it clear that there are many reasons to think ahead.

The main thing is to just get started. It can be overwhelming to think about and seem very expensive. But most people have a lot of necessary items already in their homes. They just need to be brought together in an accessible way. Look at your family and their general needs now and in two to four years. How many people, children, pets? Are there those with special needs? Then think about what you'd need to get by for an hour (as in when power goes out). Then think about a couple of days, weeks and maybe even months.

It might be cold and wet. Or it might be really hot. You'll need to think about both contingencies. Food, water, shelter, extra clothing, coats, blankets – all are musts, plus any medicines and prescriptions household members/pets need. You also need copies of important papers (ID, etc.) and a 5-gallon bucket with plastic bags for liners than can become your emergency toilet. Experts recommend a gallon of water/day per person. You can last 20 or so days without food but less than a week without water.

She uses a large rolling suitcase to hold necessities because the recent forest fires have reinforced the message that people may need to evacuate in a hurry. She also uses a rolling garbage bin to supplement water, food supplies, more clothes, etc. And she has a smaller go-kit with a few essentials in a backpack that she carries in her car at all times.

Think about multi-use items, such as a tarp, which along with a rope can be made into a tent or sun shade. She's invested in a Jackery portable power station, which will keep phones, laptops, etc. charged. And don't forget the charging cords.

She packs a clean-up kit, a first aid kit, a personal hygiene kit (brushing your teeth and cleaning up a bit can be a huge psychological lift during a forced evacuation.) She also advises packing some "fun" snacks, especially if you have kids, as well as some games, books, puzzles, etc. – anything to keep your mind occupied and/or distracted from a less-than-ideal situation.

Two more main tips – have some cash on hand in a variety of bills. ATMs won't work if there's no power. Also, have your backup documentation in a separate place, such as with a relative in another location. Things like your passports, online passwords, banking information, etc.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency has lots of forms available to help you get organized. Go to [www.ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov) for an Emergency Supply List, among other aids. There are other helpful forms, such as a Family Communication Plan, at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention site under the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

It's a lot to think about. She said the main thing is to get started. Try a 72-hour kit and go from there.

**WKNA Board Elections** -- With Carol Phipps presiding, Gary Blake nominated Rhonda Rich as President; Rhonda nominated Kris Adams as Vice President; Carol nominated Carolyn Homan as secretary; Carolyn nominated Robb Witters for a Board position; Art Mauer nominated Gary for a Board position; Carolyn nominated Art for a Board position; and Robb nominated Carol for a Board position. There being no other nominations, the slate was passed unanimously.

## REPORTS

**City Council Liaison report** – Councilor Juran reported that new Council members Soraida Cross and Robert Husseman were seated at the first Council meeting of the year Jan. 3. The Council also adopted a rules of conduct ordinance that should help police out with certain problems that crop up in our parks, such as dogs off leash. Having dogs on leash is a rule and police can cite owners now when this rule is broken. He said he is Council liaison to WKNA this year along with Laura Reid. They will divide up the duty.

**March WKNA meeting** -- Rhonda reported that we hope to hold a joint meeting March 9 with the other Keizer neighborhood associations to host Mayor Clark's State of the City address.

**Little Library** -- Kris said she is ready to resume responsibility for WKNA's Little Library at the corner of Rafael and Shoreline. Carol has been doing backup while Kris recovers from surgery. Kris said the library is fully stocked and we have a good supply of books with which to replenish it.

**Food barrels** – Dennis Phipps picks up food a couple times a week from the WKNA-sponsored barrels at Copper Creek and Bi-Mart. He got 138 pounds and \$100 in cash in November and 206 pounds in December. For the year, the total was 1,817 pounds and \$410. The food total was about double the prior year. Higher food prices are no doubt an issue causing 2022's lower donation total.

**Cummings School** – Carol said she plans to replant the big pots this spring, along with the Reader Board planter. She reminded attendees that we ask people to use the Egan Gardens spring "free pansy" promotion to help us replant the Reader Board. We use the free pansies as a basis for the project.

**Parks** – Carol said there is a new kiosk installation at Willamette Manor similar to the one at Wallace House. At Sunset Park, the WKNA brochure box was taken out, along with part of the front fence (and part of a neighbor's fence) at the entrance gate. And at Palma Ciega Park, the new path to the river is really nice. Gary said general maintenance is still an issue at Palma Ciega. Rhonda said we need to find out the city's service schedule.

**Traffic** – Robb said the committee did not meet in December.

**Keizer United** -- Carolyn attended the January meeting. City Manager Adam Brown reported that planning and design for the turf fields at Keizer Rapids are moving along and that another meeting of the stakeholder group (which includes WKNA) probably will be scheduled.

**Keizer Community Library** – Kris is WKNA liaison to the Library Board and reported that the library has received \$60,000 from the City (from American Rescue Plan Act funding) and will stay open for at least year. The Board is moving ahead and things are going well.

**Next meetings:**

Jan. 10 – Parks Advisory Board (second Tuesday)

Jan. 11 – Planning Commission (second Wednesday)

Jan. 19 – Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian (third Thursday)

**Feb. 9 – WKNA General meeting – Adam Brown, City Manager, guest speaker**

**March 9 – WKNA General meeting – State of the City address, Mayor Cathy Clark (planned as a joint meeting with the other Keizer neighborhood associations)**

Go to [www.westkeizerna.org](http://www.westkeizerna.org) or Facebook for current information

**Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.**