

## **2023 ANNUAL ASSOCIATION REPORT for the WEST KEIZER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

### **JANUARY 2023**

**Jan. 9** – Carolyn attends Keizer United meeting. Attendees invited to WKNA General meeting to learn about emergency preparedness from Keizer Fire District's Deputy Fire Marshal Anne Marie Storms.

**Jan. 12**– WKNA Board meets at City Hall ahead of General meeting to organize for 2023-24 Board elections. In Parks report, news is discussed of an accident that took out part of the entrance fence at Sunset Park and also the WKNA brochure box attached to park signage. Also, Parks Board liaisons to West Keizer parks now include Lisa Cjeka for Willamette Manor, Dave Loudon for Wallace House and Mike Pantalone for Sunset. All Parks Board members review Keizer Rapids.

**January 12** -WKNA General – Board elections held. Rhonda Rich is re-elected President; Kris Adams is elected Vice President; Carolyn Homan is re-elected Secretary; and Carol Phipps, Gary Blake, Art Mauer and Robb Witters are elected Board members for the coming year.

Rhonda announces plans for a joint meeting of Keizer neighborhood associations on March 9 to host Mayor Clark's State of the City Address. February WKNA speaker will be City Manager Adam Brown.

**Mid-January** – Flashing speed limit signs installed on Shoreline near Dearborn. Neighbors already reporting effectiveness in slowing traffic.

**Jan. 19** -- Robb and Carolyn attend Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee. Speed table at Cummings and Delight is in design phase.

### **FEBRUARY**

**Feb. 2** – Board meets. Discuss upcoming budget proposal ahead of joint Neighborhood Association meeting with City Staff about coordinating on a standardized budget request for all five NAs Board makes plans for next newsletter to drop in March. Discuss getting a Cummings parent to be liaison between Cummings and WKNA. Discuss plans for March joint NA meeting to host Mayor's State of the City address.

**Feb. 3** – Rhonda, Kris and Carolyn attend budget planning meeting at City Hall with representatives of other Keizer **Neighborhood Associations**, **City Manager Adam Brown** and **City Finance Director Tim Wood**.

**Feb. 6** -- Carolyn attends City Council

**Feb. 7** – Carol & Rhonda attend Parks Board meeting.

**Feb. 7**- Kris, Rhonda, Carolyn & Carol attend Cummings PTA meeting

**Feb. 8** -- Rhonda, Robb, Gary and Carolyn attend Planning Commission meeting. Rhonda testifies re: WKNA adding Planning Commission to its list of committees for board member assignments to monitor for issues to take back to our General meetings. Matt Lawyer urges citizen input and asks that more be done to get the word out on public hearings because the commission needs feedback. Information is shared on virtual public meeting via Zoom to be held Feb. 23 to present details about Walkable Mixed Use Area Designations.

**Feb. 9** – City Manager Adam Brown is guest speaker for WKNA General meeting. Eric Bandonis, Marion County Parole & Probation Deputy gives quarterly report.

**Feb. 13** – Carolyn attends Keizer United. Jenny Ammon, Keizer’s environmental specialist, shared information about plans for Earth Day in April and a service day to be held at Keizer Rapids Park.

**Feb. 16** – Robb, Art, Carolyn & Rhonda attend Traffic Safety meeting. Update of Neighborhood Traffic Management Program discussed again. Questions posed around citizen petition requirement and what happens when one is filed. The TSBP Committee needs to know and needs information back from the City. Public input to be sought in March on Metro Safety Action Plan, including issues like speeding, crosswalks, pedestrian and bike safety measures, etc.

**Feb. 21** -- Full WKNA Board attends City Council meeting. Rhonda presents WKNA’s annual report to the City. Report is accepted and official recognition granted for another year to the association.

**Feb. 23** – Carolyn & Rhonda join Zoom meeting to get information on Walkable Mixed Use Designations.

## **MARCH**

**March 2** – WKNA Board meets

**March 6** – Carolyn attends City Council meeting. Plans for Keizer’s 40<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration discussed. Graffiti problem addressed – information shared on how to report it on Keizer Police website.

**March 8** –Robb attends Planning Commission

**March 9** – WKNA General meeting held as joint session with other neighborhood associations to hear Mayor Clark’s State of the City address. Each NA gives a neighborhood report.

**March 13** -- Rhonda & Carolyn attend a Keizer United meeting.

**March 14** – Carol and Carolyn attend Parks Board meeting. Graffiti again noted as major problem in the city, including the parks. New wood chips have been installed at Willamette Manor and a problem with the Wallace House play structure was noted.

**March 14** - Kris attends Cummings PTA meeting.

**March 16** – Rhonda, Carol, Kris and Carolyn deliver cookies to Cummings Elementary as part of spring conferences to thank teachers for their work. Group also views ungraveled parking area east of the school used by teachers and others. A teacher requested WKNA help in getting the City to put some gravel down or otherwise make the parking area more usable.

**March 16** - Art, Robb attend Traffic Safety Bikeways meeting.

**March 27** – Carol, Rhonda, Carolyn and Kathy Lincoln replant the Cummings School Reader Board planter with pansies from Egan Gardens and other nurseries.

**March 30** – WKNA Board meeting at Rhonda's house. Meeting moved because of joint meeting upcoming with other associations regarding election forum.

## **APRIL**

**During the month of April** - Gary Blake moves two loads of wood chips delivered to Palma Ciega Park.

**April 6** -- Joint Keizer Neighborhood Association Boards' election forum for Salem-Keizer School Board and Chemeketa Board candidates. About 50 people attend.

**April 8** – Rhonda, Carol and Carolyn distribute door hangers and talk with neighbors on Shoreline to gauge reaction to installation of flashing speed signs between Cummings and Chemawa on Shoreline. Have they slowed traffic in neighbors' opinion? Most of those contacted said yes, they thought so.

**April 11** – Carol and Carolyn attend Parks Board. Carol applies for grant to plant kinnikinnick to stabilize eroding hillside at Willamette Manor Park. Grant is approved.

**April 11** Kris attend Cummings PTA meeting. Amber Zimbelman agrees to be the parent liaison to WKNA.

**April 12** -- Robb attends Planning Commission

**April 13** – WKNA General meeting held. Guest speaker, Shannon Valdez, Salem Kayak Rentals and Tours/Oregon Guided Kayak Tours.

**April 17** -- Carolyn and Kris attend Keizer United meeting, report on candidate forum to be held. Earth Day events at Keizer Rapids Park on April 22 are highlighted.

Announcement made that Keizer United meetings are moving to the second Monday of the month.

**April 17-** Carolyn attends Keizer Council meeting.

**April 20 --** Robb, Rhonda, Art, Kris and Carolyn attend Traffic Safety Committee. Robb presented an update on the flashing speed signs at the April 20 meeting, which included feedback from neighbors as to the effectiveness. The Neighborhood Traffic Management Program was discussed. Rhonda testifies that the 75% buy-in on any project via petition signatures is still an issue. Doing door hangers is one thing but going door-to-door to ask for signatures is another.

**April 22 --** Earth Day at Keizer Rapids Park. Audubon member, Carolyn Homan, helps lead tour at KRP.

An email is sent to WKNA members regarding “Soggy Day in the Park” and “Learn to Fish” events. Also, members were notified of a online survey on Keizer Walkable Mixed Use Areas.

## **MAY**

**May 4 –** WKNA Board meets at Robb’s house. Discuss meeting in July to plan next newsletter. Rhonda turns in a letter of support from WKNA to the City of Keizer to be forwarded to Representative Kevin Mannix for the turf field project at Keizer Rapids Park, which is still \$900,000 short of full funding.

Rhonda spoke with Bill Lawyer about Cummings teacher’s request to repair muddy areas of gravel parking area east of the school. He said they will consider the project and that school officials can contact with him without involving WKNA.

**May 6 & 7–** Carol, Rhonda, Carolyn and Tom Homan, Gary Blake and Kathy Lincoln place jute, dig planting holes and place 135 kinnikinnick plants at Willamette Manor Park. They also replant 6 vinca plants in the same area. The plants were obtained through a grant from the Parks Advisory Board.

**May 9 -** Kris attends the Keizer United meeting.

**May 11 --** WKNA General meeting with update from Marion Co. Sheriff’s Parole and Probation Deputy Eric Bandonis, James Lelack from Chamber of Commerce on this summer’s Keizerfest, City Manager Adam Brown outlined the Stategic Plan and a report from Keizer Code Enforcement Officer Ben Crosby. Ben said graffiti is a major problem in Keizer currently.

**May 15 –** Rhonda attends Keizer United

**Mid-May –** Flashing speed signs installed on Shoreline.

**May 16** – Rhonda, Carol P. attend Parks Board.

**May 18**- Carolyn & Carol D. attend the Traffic Safety Committee meeting & testify regarding the NTMP.

**May 20**- Rhonda attends the Keizer Fire Dept 75th Anniversary.

**May 22**- Rhonda attends the Keizer United meeting.

**May 26** -- Rhonda and Carolyn visit T-Shirt World and Creative Imprints for bids on WKNA T-shirts for Board use at events. Choose T-Shirt World for shirts to wear at Keizer's Birthday celebration, Keizerfest, etc.

**May 30** -- Rhonda, Carolyn attend KRP turf field update with Adam Brown and stakeholders to discuss financing issues. Legislative appropriation (\$1 million) did not come through in 2023 session; project is short about \$900,000 of full completion.

## **JUNE**

**June 5** – Carolyn attends Keizer City Council meeting.

**June 12** -- Carolyn and Kris attend Keizer United

**June 13** -- Carolyn attends Parks Board meeting.

**June 14** -- Rhonda and Kris participate in end-of-year flag-raising event at Cummings Elementary.

**June 15** – Rhonda, Robb and Carolyn attend Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee meeting. Rhonda testifies re: the NTM Program, asking about crosswalk, pedestrian and bike safety being added to the flow chart and asking how issues are prioritized. Currently concerned citizens bring concerns forward. Public Works representative Mike said speeding is one route to lodging a concern and safety is another route that can be used.

**June 16-17** – Keizer's 40<sup>th</sup> Birthday celebration. Rhonda attends and helps staff a joint Neighborhood Association table to pass out newsletters and brochures.

**June 20** – Carolyn & Carol D. attend Keizer City Council meeting.

## **JULY**

**July 3** -- Rhonda attends City Council to honor retiring City Recorder Tracy Davis for all her help during her long service with the City.

**July 10** -- Carolyn attends Keizer United. Robert Johnson presents update on Keizer parks

**July 11** – Rhonda, Carol P., Carolyn and Tom Homan attend Parks Board. Rhonda presents retiring Assistant City Recorder Debbie Lockhart with a card and flowers to honor and thank her for all her help during her long career with the city. Carolyn and Tom present idea of using “public graffiti” – legally sanctioned installations – as a way to combat rampant illegal graffiti in Keizer and its parks. Idea is referred to Keizer Arts Commission. No new word on KRP turf field funding. Apparently, Rep. Mannix’s request for \$1 million in state funding fell through.

**July 13** – WKNA Board meets at Rhonda’s. Accepts Kris Adams’ resignation as vice president and elects Carol D. to the position. Discuss getting T-shirts with WKNA logo to wear at events. WKNA Board to help with August Community dinner and would be nice to have the shirts for that event as well as Keizerfest and other activities that come up. Board members agree to pay \$20 for their shirts to help cover costs. Kris Adams also printing up lanyards for Board members to have as ID at other events. Group also reviewed WKNA brochure for needed changes before a new batch is printed. Carol P. agreed to work on updating and a new design so we will have them for fall events.

**July 18** -- Parks Board member testifies at Arts Commission regarding “legal graffiti” idea. Commission invites Carolyn and Tom Homan to present the idea at the Commission’s September meeting.

**July 20** – Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee – Carolyn attends. The 75% threshold for neighbor buy-in to any traffic mitigation proposal is still a sticking point. NTM Plan will be sent to Community Diversity Engagement Committee for input on equity issues.

## **AUGUST**

**Aug. 7** -- Rhonda and Carolyn attend Keizer City Council. Council approves installation of speed table on Cummings Lane at Delight St. by Cummings Elementary.

**Aug. 8** -- Carol P., Carolyn attend Parks Board meeting. Joint annual Parks Board/City Council parks tour is planned, starting at Keizer Rapids.

**Aug. 9** -- Construction begins on speed “cushion” to slow traffic at Cummings Lane/Delight St. intersection by Cummings Elementary. After some adjustment, the installation was finished and in place in time for the start of school.

**Aug. 11-12** -- Rhonda, Carol D., Robb, Kris, Gary and Carolyn staff Neighborhood Association booth at Keizerfest in Keizer Rapids Park. (Booth cancelled Sunday because of heat.) Distributed newsletter and brochures.

**Aug. 22** -- Carol and Martin Doerfler attend Trashy Tuesday event at Wallace House Park.

**Aug. 23** - Rhonda, Carol, Kris and Carolyn attend Community Dinner at St. Edward's to check on possibility of WKNA Board helping with the November Thanksgiving dinner. Carol and Kris will follow up.

**Aug. 28** – Rhonda, Carol D., Kris and Carolyn attend meeting at Cummings Elementary with Principal Andrew Kronser to discuss cooperation, support for school events, PTA, etc.

## **SEPTEMBER**

**Sept. 5** -- Carolyn attends City Council meeting

**Sept. 7** – WKNA Board meeting at Rhonda's. Group discusses brochure content and redesign (thanks again to Carol P.) Carol D. said install of Cummings speed table was incorrect (more of a "sheet" than a table) and City is to work on it. Drainage and ADA issues at the site but crews to "shave" down both sides to create bigger table effect. Robb is a candidate for open position on Planning Commission. Discuss funding for KRP turf fields. Rhonda to see if Rep. Mannix will resubmit his request for state funding. Group discusses whether to respond to Community Prosperity Initiative grant usage at KRP. Council designated use to extend electrical to the south open field area at KRP to support Keizerfest and other event operations.

**Sept. 11** -- Joint City Council/Parks Advisory Board tour. Starts at KRP. Rhonda and Carol D. attend.

**Sept. 14** - WKNA general meeting speaker is Rep. Kevin Mannix. WKNA requested that the Rep. request additional funding at the 2024 Legislative Session for the KRP Turf Fields. Chief Teague was honored for his service to the KPD with a cake and thank you from everyone.

**Sept 14** - Robb named to Planning Commission at the Volunteer Coordinating Committee.

**Sept. 19** – Keizer Arts Commission meets. Carolyn and Tom Homan present idea of "legal graffiti." Commission takes the idea for further investigation.

## **OCTOBER**

**Oct. 2** -- Carolyn and Carol D. attend City Council meeting. New Keizer Police Chief Andrew Copeland is sworn in.

**Oct. 5** – Rhonda and Carolyn testify at Community Diversity Engagement Committee regarding Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian redraft of the Traffic Management Program. Committee to evaluate the plan for equity issues.

**Oct. 5** – WKNA Board meets at City Hall after the Community Diversity Engagement Committee meeting. City has requested subscription list of WKNA emails. Board decides to share signup information with members so they can decide whether to connect for the committee agendas, etc., direct from the City. Rhonda to include link in

her email to members about the General meetings and we can add link on WKNA Facebook page.

**Oct. 9** – Carolyn attends Keizer United meeting. Presentation made by Northwest Human Services 988 Crisis Help Line.

**Oct. 10** – Rhonda and Carolyn attend Parks Advisory Board. Rhonda submits second grant request on Carol P.'s behalf for ground cover plants and mulch to stabilize eroding bank at Willamette Manor Park. Grant is approved after Matt Lawyer proposes motion to increase request to “not to exceed \$600” to provide a buffer in case more plants are needed.

**Oct. 12-** WKNA general meeting. Chief Ryan Russell, Keizer Fire Dept. presents information on the November levy along with Joe Van Meter, KFD Board Member. Eric Bandonis gives report.

**Oct. 18** - Carolyn & Rhonda attend a Keizer Chamber of Commerce Government Affairs Committee meeting with the other Keizer neighborhood associations to address safety issues which included traffic/speeding, homelessness, graffiti & sidewalks.

**Oct. 19**– Robb attends Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee, which is still working on redraft of Traffic Management Plan. He said the 75% threshold for neighbor agreement on traffic calming proposals may not be hard and fast.

**October 21** - Work Party at Willamette Manor Park to replace some hillside plants and spread bark dust. Carol & Dennis Phipps, Kathy Lincoln, Tom & Carolyn Homan & Rhonda Rich.

**October 28-** Rhonda & Kathy Lincoln & other members of WKNA participate in a Claggett Creek Watershed Council project to plant a pollinator garden & improve the pathway at Wallace House Park.

## **NOVEMBER**

**Nov. 2** – WKNA Board meets. Discuss the upcoming Keizer Community Dinner and who from WKNA Board can help seat guests and bus tables. Also discuss topics for a fall WKNA newsletter edition. Carol P. presents the newly designed WKNA Brochure. Robb designs a bookmark to insert in the Little Library.

**Nov. 6** – Carolyn attends Keizer City Council. Tammy Saldavar, of Traffic Safety committee reports on Traffic Management Program redraft efforts. Council planning a future work session on the plan.

**Nov. 8** – Robb attends first Planning Commission meeting as a member.

**Nov. 9** – Patrick Pardo, with Keizer CERT, is guest speaker at WKNA General meeting.



**Nov. 13** – Carolyn & Rhonda attend Keizer United meeting which features a “resource fair” format. Neighborhood Associations share a table to display brochures, newsletters and other informational items.

**Nov. 14-** Rhonda & Carolyn participate in the Ruby Bridges Walk to School Day at Cummings School.

**Nov. 14** – Rhonda attends the Parks Board meeting to report on the Willamette Manor Park hillside improvement project.

**Nov. 16** – Carol D. and Carolyn attend Traffic Safety Bikeways Pedestrian Committee. Carol testifies that it would be good if the committee considered lowering the % of neighbors needed to endorse a traffic calming project. At 75% it’s a deterrent to individuals seeking a solution to a traffic solution. Tammy Saldavar confirms that the plan is still being tweaked. Council is considering a work session on the plan in January.

**Nov. 22** - Carolyn, Carol D., the Phipps family, and the Witter’s family attends and serves at the Thanksgiving St. Edwards Community dinner.

**Nov. 29** – Fall newsletter is printed and distributed.

## **DECEMBER**

**Dec. 4** – Carolyn attends Keizer City Council. Council awards contract for construction of Keizer Rapids Turf Fields. Tammy Kunz, president of Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association and member of Community Diversity Engagement Committee, reports to Council that the CDE Committee is evaluating the Neighborhood Traffic Management program through an equity lens.

**Dec.11-** Rhonda attends the Keizer City Council work session on the Strategic Plan. WKNA members are encouraged by email to complete the online survey on the city website.

**Dec. 12-** Rhonda & Kris attend the Cummings PTA meeting.

## **JANUARY 2024**

**Jan 2** – Carolyn attends City Council. Council splits on a motion to change Council rules for adding discussion items; votes to change the name of Keizer Community Center to Keizer Events Center; holds further discussion of franchise fees for utilities to be continued in a work session; and welcomes new City Attorney Joseph Lindsay.

**Jan. 4** – WKNA Board meeting at Rhonda’s. Discuss upcoming General meeting and Board elections.

**Jan. 8** – Carolyn attends Keizer United meeting. Reports on KRP soccer field project, with construction to begin in March. City still working on fundraising to complete the parking lot and the equipment building. State and federal elected leaders will be

contacted for funding help and they plan to apply to the state's Local Government Grant program for the bathroom facility.

**Jan. 8** – Carolyn attends Keizer Council work session on franchise fees vs. a Public Rights-of-Way Ordinance. Also discussed the retire/rehire policy.

**Jan. 11** – WKNA General meeting with Jenny Ammon, Keizer's environmental education and outreach coordinator, as guest speaker. In Board elections, Rhonda Rich is re-elected President, Robb Witters is elected vice president, Carolyn Homan is elected secretary and Carol Phipps, Carol Doerfler, Art Mauer and Gary Blake are elected to the Board. Amber Zimbelman will be parent liaison to the Board from Cummings Elementary School. Kris Adams will continue to be WKNA's liaison to the Keizer Community Library.

***Submitted by  
Rhonda Rich, WKNA President***

***Carolyn Homan, WKNA Secretary***

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### **2023 Food Barrel Totals**

BiMart 1,408 lbs.

Copper Creek Mercantile 1,582 lbs. and \$580 cash

Keizer Fire Department 260 lbs.