

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

**May 12, 2016**

**Keizer Civic Center**

**Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA secretary**

**Call to order** – President Gary Blake called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center and welcomed approximately 16 people, including guest speakers Richard Walsh and Dave Walery. Introductions were made around the room and Gary asked everyone to sign in.

### **Speaker Presentations**

**Keizer Iris Festival, Dave Walery, Festival chair** – He distributed tickets to the carnival portion of the festival and explained highlights of the May 19-22 event, including entertainment, parking arrangements and layout of attractions.

**Willamette River Water Trail, Richard Walsh, City Council's Liaison to WRWT Partnership and member of Keizer Parks and Recreation Advisory Board** – He explained that the trail is ON the river, rather than being a path that runs alongside the river. The Water Trail extends 187 miles from basically the McKenzie River area outside Eugene down to Portland. It is a partnership of organizations and communities all along the river to accommodate those interested in flat water canoeing and kayaking. Among the partners are the cities of Salem and Keizer, Marion County, Oregon State Parks, the National Parks Service, U.S. Bureau of Land Management and Willamette Riverkeeper.

He distributed information that explained the various benefits of the trail, including environmental protections, distinguishing private from public property to help prevent trespassing and landowner conflicts, providing information on river etiquette and identification of various amenities available in communities along the trail, such as rest rooms, parks and things like the canoe locker at Keizer Rapids Park.

Information on Water Trail resources is available at [willamettewatertrail.org](http://willamettewatertrail.org) and a River Guide is available at [willamette-riverkeeper.org](http://willamette-riverkeeper.org). Walsh said the entire trail guide can be printed off from the website. The guide lists hazards, amenities, local attractions and much more. The motto is: "Be prepared, be safe, enjoy the Willamette."

In answer to questions, Walsh said there was a big increase in river use last year despite the drought and they expect good conditions this year. Meeting attendee Jerry Nutbrock said there will be an opportunity through Willamette Riverkeeper to float the Willamette June 11-12 from Wallace Marine Park to Newberg – a 2-day, 33-mile float.

**Summer Events at Keizer Rapids Park, Clint Holland** – Clint announced that free concerts and other events again will be offered weekly at the KRP amphitheater this summer. The first event will be Bark for Life on May 22, a benefit for the American Heart Association. Among other events will be presentations by The Loafers, July 8, Johnny Limbo and the Lugnuts July 16, Keizer Homegrown Theater July 20-23, Sugar Sauce Aug. 5, Patrick Lamb Aug. 19, a David Bowie tribute band Aug. 20 and Thunder Road Aug. 27. Events are planned into September. The full schedule still is being worked out.

**Approval of Minutes for April 14, 2016** – Gary asked for a motion to approve. Sarah Head so moved and Dave Dyer seconded. Motion carried.

**Budget for 2015-16** – Gary said that \$500.03 was spent and that WKNA would "absorb the extra 3 cents" above the \$500 budget. Another \$500 request for 2016-17 was submitted and approved by the Keizer Budget Committee. The request goes to City Council June 6.

### **Neighborhood Business**

**Palma Ciea Park** – Gary said he made a presentation to the Parks Advisory Board on Tuesday regarding how to make this park more usable and welcoming. The proposal is pending. The Parks meeting can be viewed on Channel 23 (Comcast) or [keizertv.com](http://keizertv.com).

**Adopt-A-Street cleanup** – Gary thanked Ron and Kim Freeman for assuming the role of project coordinators. The next event is 10 a.m. June 11. Volunteers are asked to meet at Chemawa and Shoreline. Carol Doerfler said she would post information on Facebook and send a notice to her Neighborhood Watch list as well.

**City Council Liaison report, Kim Freeman** – She noted the coming closure of the intersection of Verda and Chemawa for construction of the long-planned roundabout to control traffic flow. Closure begins June 15 and runs until Sept. 2. No traffic – pedestrian, bike or car, -- will be allowed through during the construction period. Another roads project involves installation of ADA improvements in Shoreline sidewalks at Moneida and Rafael.

The city's Budget Committee deliberations were completed in two meetings this year, she said. WKNA's \$500 request will be up for council approval on June 6. The biggest topic of discussion was adding another police officer, she said. Since a status quo budget was agreed on, however, no positions were added. She said councilors want to make sure any addition is sustainable. In answer to a question, she said that increases in PERS (public employee retirement) costs will have a larger impact in 2017-19 than this year.

She said the floats are up at the Keizer Rapids boat ramp. Workers also have striped the parking lot at KRP.

**Other business: Suggestions for Meeting Topics**

Since May is the last general meeting of the 2015-16 year, Gary asked if attendees had topic suggestions for 2016-17 meetings, which resume in September. Inviting Keizer Code Enforcement Officer Ben Crosby back to report on how his first year has gone was suggested. More information on emergency planning also was suggested.

**In other business**, Carol Doerfler noted the recent report of a mutilated pet found on Shoreline, apparently the victim of a coyote attack. She will post a Facebook alert to pet owners to keep pets inside.

Richard Walsh said that a paved trail from the neighborhood on the Tate Avenue side of Keizer Rapids Park into the park is planned as part of a grant request to the state parks agency to fund a pour-and-play surface, new restrooms and other amenities at the Big Toy. The request is for about \$500,000.

**Next meetings:** Adopt-A-Street June 11; National Nite Out Aug. 2; WKNA General Meeting Sept. 8, 7 p.m. at Keizer Civic Center. A WKNA Board meeting is tentatively set for June 2 should there be developments around the Palma Ciega proposal.

**Meeting adjourned** at 8:20 p.m.