

West Keizer Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes  
April 7, 2016

Rhonda Rich's home

Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA secretary

Attending: Gary Blake, Rhonda Rich, Carol Doerfler, Sarah Head, Art Mauer, Carolyn Homan, Clint Holland

Call to order – President Gary Blake called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. at Rhonda Rich's home.

Palma Ciega Park update – Clint stated that he would not support neighborhood action to upgrade this park unless the city commits to clearing the ivy and other invasives in the park.

Gary said he had walked the park recently and found trees down and other evidence that there had been no city maintenance for some time. Gary said neighbors have complained to police about unsavory activity in the park but response hasn't been prompt in some instances. Board members agreed the park is not a welcoming spot for visitors in its current state. Gary was asked if nearby neighbors would help adopt the park for a needed cleanup. He said there is some skepticism regarding liability, because of current conditions there, but there might be a way to clear an area at the top of the bank for a bench and then a path down to the river.

Clint made a motion that the West Keizer neighborhood would clean up a section of Palma Ciega Park on the condition that the city commits to killing and cleaning up the ivy, poison oak and blackberries. Art seconded and discussion followed.

Board members wanted clarity on what WKNA is agreeing to clean up. Placing a bench and picnic table was mentioned and clearing the bank down as far as it's possible toward the river. Gary said we should isolate an area at the top for a bench and table and then limb trees in that area so people can see the water. It would require a section 50 to 100 ft. wide.

Clint amended his motion to read: WKNA will enlist volunteers to clean up a section of Palma Ciega Park starting at the viewing area marked on park maps and clearing a 50 ft. section at the top and then down the bank, on condition that the city agree to kill ivy on the trees and spray blackberries and poison oak this year and every year thereafter in that section. Art seconded. The motion passed with Carol dissenting.

Carolyn will write up the proposed plan so Gary can carry it forward to the city. Gary said parks manager Robert Johnson has agreed to meet him to tour the park. Gary will outline the proposal to him and ask Robert to bring it up at the Parks Board meeting

next week, since Gary will be out of town. WKNA could offer volunteer hours as a match for a possible grant from the Parks Board fund.

Minutes of previous meeting—Art moved to approve and Rhonda seconded. Motion carried.

Budget for 2015-16 – Rhonda confirmed expenditures of \$100 for the logo; \$83 for printing and \$92.05 for the website, which Rhonda just paid. Anticipated expense is \$180 for brochures, although the cost for 500 may have gone up, and possibly \$20 for door hangers.

Board discussed where to place new logo on reprinted brochures. Agreed that the front bottom section is ideal. Also discussed placing some new photos, possibly of the Little Library, Holiday pool or the tennis courts. Rhonda and Carol will work on this. Rhonda will contact Davis about reworking the brochure for reprinting, and possibly Barb Henke if Davis can't do it. Brochure needs to be done before the end of June budget period.

Budget request for 2016-17 is in, another \$500 (\$100 website, \$200 printing, \$200 signage). Rhonda said WKNA just needs someone to be at budget hearing May 3 or 5. Carol noted that although it's not necessary for a representative to be there, Rhonda has set a good precedent of attendance and keeping WKNA before the council. May 3 was judged to be the best session to attend, starting at 6 p.m.

Getting the Word Out – Rhonda said Barb Henke had sent some information on tracking the website traffic via Google Analytics. Gary has Gmail and will check to see if his wife, Rachel, can handle this.

Brochure holders – Rhonda is working on getting these out and looking to place either a brochure box or stand at Wallace House, Sunset and Willamette Manor parks and the KRP kiosk and at the Tate Ave. entrance to KRP. There may be an issue of having enough brochures for the stands and to pass out with Iris Fest Run route information, depending on when brochure reprints can be done. Sarah said she has some brochure copies if needed.

Nextdoor.com – Rhonda had a conversation with Tina Schneider and will see if she might take the lead on setting up a WKNA site for this as another way to get the word out.

Picture of the new board – We will try to get this taken at the next general meeting.

Adopt-A-Street – Gary needs to talk with Ron Freeman about heading this effort for WKNA.

Topics for general meetings – April 14 will be presentations by Mark Callier on Marion County Public Safety Coordinating Committee; Eric Bandonis, Marion Co. parole officer; and Lt. Copeland, Keizer Police Dept., on Neighborhood Watch.

For May 12, Sarah has not been able to get Willamette Riverkeepers to respond to a request. Carol said Mary Jo Emmett is set to talk about the John Knox Community Garden. Board discussed asking Richard Walsh to discuss the Water Trail or Elizabeth Sagmiller to talk about storm water/rain gardens, etc.

Another possibility was an Iris Fest update from Dave Walery. Sarah will contact him. Rhonda will contact Richard Walsh re: Water Trail. Gary also could do a Palma Ciega park update, which might be timely if we need to recruit volunteers for work later on.

Fall topics – Cherriots, UGB (Nate Brown)

Next Board meeting – The May meeting will be the last for the year, unless need for a special meeting arises. Tentatively set for 6 p.m. Gary's house, if a meal is planned, otherwise 6:30. He will check with Rachel and confirm time.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

## PROPOSAL FOR PALMA CIEA PARK FOR PARKS BOARD CONSIDERATION

At its April 7 meeting, the West Keizer Neighborhood Association Board considered the status of Palma Ciega Park and agreed that the park is not a welcoming place for visitors in its current state. The board entertained a motion to enlist volunteers from the neighborhood to clean up at least a section of the park, clearing a section of the bank at the top and as far down to the river as possible, placing a viewing bench and picnic table at the top and limbing trees so that visitors can view the river from the bank. This work, however, is on condition that the city agree to spray ivy and other invasives in the section to be cleared.

The Board passed the following motion: WKNA will enlist volunteers to clean up a section of Palma Ciega Park starting at the viewing area marked on park maps and clearing a 50 ft. section at the top and then down the bank as far as possible, on condition that the city agree to kill ivy on the trees and spray blackberries and poison oak this year and every year thereafter in that section.

WKNA would offer volunteer hours as a match for a possible grant from the Parks Board fund.