

West Keizer Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2019

Keizer Civic Center

Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA secretary

Call to order – President Carol Doerfler called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and welcomed about 25 attendees. Introductions were made around the room.

Approval of Minutes for March 14, 2019 – Rhonda Rich made a motion to approve the minutes from the March 14 meeting, as submitted and posted on WKNA's website. Dennis Phipps seconded. Motion carried.

Announcements

Keizer Fire District – Betty Hart, member of Keizer Fire District Board and unopposed candidate for re-election (as are the other 2 candidates up for re-election), provided some of her background and qualifications. She's been on the Board four years and has been treasurer all that time. She represents the district at Keizer United meetings and other gatherings such as Coffee with Cathy (Mayor Cathy Clark's listening sessions.) The district has served the community for 70 years and for 40 years, it was almost entirely volunteer run.

Britni Davidson, Salem Electric Member Services Manager – She attended, along with Salem Electric Board member Dave Bauer who lives in the West Keizer neighborhood, to share information on changes to the cooperative's Bylaws and Articles of Incorporation. The changes are aimed at protecting the cooperative from the possibility of outside individuals or entities trying to take over Salem Electric. Every submitted ballot will be entered into a drawing for a chance to win one of six \$500 bill credits. Ballots will be mailed in mid-April. Everyone is encouraged to vote because in order for bylaw and Articles of Incorporation to take effect, at least 1,900 cooperative members must vote. She said the cooperative's annual meeting will be held May 7 at Roth's West Salem conference room. Ballots can be mailed back in, delivered to the West Salem office or turned in at the annual meeting.

Monster Cookie Ride – Hersch Sangster alerted the group to the upcoming ride, sponsored by the Salem Bicycle Club on April 28. Part of the 62 mile route winds through West Keizer, including Shoreline to Manbrin and Cherry Avenue.

Budget for 2018-19, Rhonda – Of the the 2018-19 budget, WKNA has spent \$406 – \$77 on printing, \$165 for the website (Go Daddy), \$60 on signs, \$104 for new, sturdier sign stands. That will leave about \$100 to purchase more door hangers, which will be used to distribute Iris Fest run/walk information to neighbors in West Keizer along the event route. WKNA Board members will attend the May 2 Keizer Budget Committee meeting where Carol D. will present the 2019-20 budget request for \$550 and answer any questions.

Guest Speakers – Will Postgate, representing Garten Foundation, John Sullivan, representing Loren's Sanitation, and Reed Carlson, marketing and recycling coordinator with Mid-Valley Recyclers, presented information on the new recycling rules, which have created some confusion for customers and for some, fines when recycling is done incorrectly.

Reed said the new rules came about when China, destination for most of the West Coast's recycled materials, rejected anything with contamination levels higher than .5%. The average in Marion County is 9 to 10%. The major contaminants – food, hazardous materials.

He reviewed program plastics OK to recycle: bottles and jugs only, 12 ounces and larger. The opening must be smaller than the base. They must be empty, clean and dry. WHAT'S NOT OK: Tubs and jars, any film plastics, clam shells. The problem with many plastic jars, he said, is that they are contaminated with oil-based foods such as mayonnaise, which makes them very hard to clean well enough to be recyclable.

Program paper OK to recycle: newspaper, junk mail, gray board, copier paper, file folders, magazines, catalogs, card board, etc. Cereal boxes are OK but take out the plastic liner. They're asking for no frozen pizza

boxes. The lids on take-out pizza boxes are usually OK if there's no grease or food contamination. In answer to a question, they said pizza boxes in the green yard debris container are OK but this kind of fibrous material can't take up more than 20% of the bin's content and that's sometimes hard to estimate.

On the NO list for paper: Shredded paper and greeting cards with any foil or glitter. Shredded paper can be taken directly to Garten, where they have a separate section to receive it. Garten does contract shredding for the State of Oregon and other clients and the shredded product is baled and shipped to a pulp mill. The product is kept secure throughout the process until it is pulped. The only caution – don't mix brown paper with white in the shredded material.

Other items on the NO list – aseptic cartons, such as broth, and all cold storage boxes. One plus of recycling changes is that some schools have gone away from aseptic milk cartons and are using milk dispensers and recyclable paper cups.

Program metals include steel and aluminum cans; attached labels are OK. The lids are OK if still attached or if they can be trapped in the crushed can. Otherwise the lids can clog processing machines. On the NO list: aluminum foil, aerosol cans and scrap metal, such as chain saws and engine blocks.

The red bin continues to be the place for glass bottles, useful latex paint (up to 2 gallons in labeled, sealed cans), household batteries (separated into a plastic bag), cooking oil (up to 2 gallons in an original or clean see-through plastic screw-top container); and engine oil in a sealed, leak-proof, screw top container.

Food scraps and yard debris go in the green container. Again, the fiber to mixed debris ratio is 20%.

Some items that are not recyclable but have caused confusion – coffee cups, pet food bags. When blue cart contents get too contaminated, a whole truck load can be rejected and has to go in the landfill.

Sullivan said Loren's is in the process of developing a Smart phone app that will let you type in a product and it will tell you if it's recyclable. It also will be address sensitive and can tell you who your garbage hauler is. It should be developed within a year. The industry also is looking for domestic markets for recyclables but it's hard to find outlets.

Postgate said Garten offers tours of its recycling facility on the first Friday of each month, 8:30 a.m. Gaelen McAllister, Garten Resource Development Manager, can set up group tours between 9 a.m. And 3 p.m. on weekdays. Phone (503) 581-1984 ext. 3117. As the processor, they can tell you why something is not acceptable. It helps customers understand the new rules. The recycling facility is at 3334 Industrial Way NE .

Reports –

Keizer Council liaison – Kim Freeman reported that;

- City staff are working on specifications for a redo of the tennis courts at Willamette Manor Park. The work should be done in late summer or fall. Carlson Skate Park renovations also are planned, along with a shade project for the Big Toy at Keizer Rapids.
- Construction along River Road is under way for ADA sidewalk work.
- Budget meetings will be held April 30 and May 2 at 6 p.m. These are open to the public. The proposed budget should be out next week.
- There has been no Keizer flooding in the recent days but sand bags are available at the Public Works building.
- The city has two new employees in the Environmental/Technical department.

Senate Bill 1040 update, Rhonda – Rhonda shared copies of the bill, along with a recap of developments in the effort to prevent more stray bullets from a West Salem quarry entering West Keizer and endangering residents. The bill (originally S.B.5, then 781) got an April 4 hearing, where Mayor Cathy Clark, City Manager Chris Eppley and West Keizer neighbors Carol Doerfler Dan Dietz, Jere Clancy and Rhonda Rich all testified. She also said people can go onto the state OLIS website (Oregon Legislative Information System) and get information. She said the amended bill is very specific to the West Salem quarry where gunshots originated, threatening visitors to Sunset Park in one incident and Tom and Cheryl Bauer in another. The amended bill got a work session on April 9 and was adopted as amended by the Senate Judiciary Committee. It still has to go to the full Senate and then on to the House.

In addition, she said an April 9-10 hearing on the lawsuit filed by the Bauers against the quarry owner was postponed. The Bauers are attempting to settle out of court. The order prohibiting shooting at the quarry is still in effect. Rhonda thanked the Bauers for helping make West Keizer a safer place, along with Mayor Clark, City Attorney Shannon Johnson and City Manager Eppley for their support for our public safety. WKNA will continue to follow up for any opportunities to give testimony in support of the bill.

Cummings Elementary Beautification, Carol D. – She cleaned up the Reader Board planter and planted pansies recently and has told Cummings' Principal Magda Romero that WKNA plans another extensive landscaping project next year. We also plan to get new flowers into the planters next to the building in coming days. In the fall, we plan to refresh the planters and reader board with more flowers.

Parks committee update, Dennis – The tennis courts at Willamette Manor are to be redone late summer or fall. The pathways have been built up but the height is a problem and they may do some backfill to reduce the drop off. A clean-up at Wallace House park is a possibility within a month. The city will be asking for volunteers to help out.

Keizer Rapids Park caretaker, Richard Walsh – Richard explained that the Parks Board has voted to reinstate the caretaker program at KRP, which was ended by City Council last year. Walsh was seeking West Keizer support for reinstating a caretaker in order to have “eyes on” the park. The city has looked at renting to a regular resident, rather than a caretaker, but that poses problems with the activities in the park and the new rent laws. Also, he said making money on rent goes against some of the purposes of grants that helped fund KRP. He said the Parks board isn't advocating having another city employee as caretaker because of issues with overtime, among other things. But a volunteer “park host” idea would work. It's also possible the city could partner with Oregon State Parks to support an on-site host.

Rhonda made a motion to support putting a caretaker park host back at KRP. Carol D. seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Richard said the City Council would be taking up the matter and he would notify WKNA when it's scheduled.

Upcoming Meetings:

City Budget Committee meetings – April 30 and May 2

WKNA presentation to Budget Committee – May 2

Next WKNA Board meeting – Thursday, May 2, after the city budget meeting

Next WKNA General meeting – Thursday, May 9, 7 p.m., at Keizer Community Center. Speakers: Salem-Keizer School District Zone 6 Board candidates Chuck Lee and Danielle Bethell.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.