

WKNA Board Meeting

March 6, 2014

Rhonda Rich's home

Minutes submitted by Carolyn Homan, secretary

Attending: Rhonda Rich, President

Carol Doerfler, Vice President and Neighborhood Watch coordinator

Carolyn Homan, Secretary

Ron Freeman

Art Mauer

Clint Holland

Guest: Davis Dyer, web page administrator

Absent: Gary Blake

Rhonda called the meeting called to order at 6:50 p.m.

Approval of minutes -- Board reviewed minutes from the February meeting. Ron Freeman moved and Carol Doerfler seconded approval of the February minutes; motion carried.

Budget for 2013-14 -- Rhonda reported that \$416.67 has been spent of 2013-14's \$500 budget. She suggested purchasing another \$28 package of brochure paper for use by the Chamber of Commerce. They will print more brochures as needed for inclusion in the relocation packets sent to new residents. Rhonda also displayed the two signs that were purchased for use during the Adopt-A-Street clean-up days, which say

Join Us

WKNA

WestKeizerna.org.

There are hooks at the bottom for additional signage to publicize upcoming clean-up events. The signs then can be put out in advance to encourage participants to join in the clean-up events. Two of these additional signs can be purchased for \$30. These expenditures, plus printing of 100 business cards for Board use should finish out the 2013-14 budget.

Rhonda said the 2014-15 budget is due at the end of March. She once again will ask for \$500, comprised of \$150 for brochures, \$100 each for the website and printing, and \$150 for signage. The \$150 for brochures is with the hope that we can once again get donated printed. Joe Egli/Bauer Insurance printed 120 brochures this last time. Ron moved and the group voted to approve the proposed budget.

Clint asked if the association has a cash reserve. Ron noted that the city has a use it or lose it policy. Rhonda explained that budget items are limited to communications because of WKNA's understanding with the city that neighborhood groups exist to dialog with the city and communicate with citizens. There was discussion of the possibility of raising other funds in order to pay for things such as beautification at Cummings Elementary School. Rhonda noted that WKNA would have to become a registered nonprofit and that there has been no enthusiasm for taking this step.

Getting the word out --

PR for upcoming meetings -- This continues through Keizertimes, K23, the Chamber and WKNA websites, KYKN and the SJ.

Business cards for the Board: Ron said he would finish up a design and share with Board members so that cards can be in the works by the next meeting.

Website -- Joe Egli is to email information about Bauer Insurance as a WKNA sponsor for inclusion on the website. Davis said he also can add a link from WKNA to Cummings Elementary via the Salem-Keizer schools web page..

Facebook -- Rachel Blake will meet with Rhonda re:WKNA Facebook postings and better using this media site to publicize WKNA events and activities. Rhonda has the passwords that Rick Hammerquist used to set up the page so that Rachel can take over these updates.

Yard Signs -- Art Mauer has agreed to be the sign manager. Board members all have signs to post in their areas.

Adopt-A-Street: The next clean-up day is set for 10 a.m. Saturday, March 15.

Neighborhood Watch coordinator? -- Since Carol is now WKNA vice president, she doesn't feel she will have the time to recruit new watch captains this coming year. The job is time-consuming as it requires canvassing neighborhoods to contact individuals, then set meetings with interested neighborhood groups about the process of becoming an officially recognized Neighborhood Watch group. These tie in with National Nite out, held the first Tuesday every August, and the Keizer Police Department has criteria groups must meet in order to be certified. These include having at least 20 families involved.

Carol agreed to continue being the contact, should a group be interested, and to keep her Neighborhood Watch group going, but it was noted that other activity would be very limited given her other WKNA duties.

WKNA Parks -- As a member of the Parks Advisory Board, Clint agreed to keep WKNA informed regarding any issues around West Keizer parks that might arise. Rhonda clarified that he isn't representing WKNA on the Board; he is just going to keep WKNA abreast of pertinent parks matters.

Clint also said Robert Johnson, the city's Parks Director, is great to work with and will be glad to help with specific issues. His work cell is 503-932-7813. Clint discussed planned improvements at Sunset Park and said donated piping and volunteers to help with trenching are in place to add irrigation to the park.

Clint also noted that at the last Parks Advisory meeting \$20,000 was set aside in a matching grant fund so that the city has a way to provide 50% matching money when individuals and groups come up with ideas for park improvements that are then approved.

He said the parks department is assembling picnic tables, which cost \$300 each and are being funded by Rotary. These are to be distributed throughout city parks.

Cummings Elementary School report and discussion -- Rhonda and Carol met recently with school principal Lisa Sundseth. She acknowledged that Cummings is a "walking" school for many of the students and that safety is an issue, given the lack of sidewalks in the area. WKNA could be an advocate for sidewalks on Delight. Rhonda and Carol will attend the Cummings PTC meeting March 11 to introduce WKNA. They plan to share brochures and create an informational poster for the entryway.

Clint broached the idea of developing the open play area at Cummings and said Keizer Rotary would partner with WKNA on it. Carol said she would like to discuss with Cummings the idea of organizing an annual event to benefit the school and involve the neighborhood, and it could be something that would use the open area.

Clint committed to handling the fill and trenching work that would be necessary for any field development project if Salem-Keizer district approves. The project would need water, but either Salem-Keizer or the city could agree to provide that.

As for sidewalks on Delight, the group agreed that student safety is an issue given the many elementary kids running along the street and high school students coming and going from McNary. Once the issue is raised with Cummings PTC, contacting City Council will be next. Rhonda said the issue could also be raised at the March general WKNA meeting as a part of Cathy Clark's presentation on transportation issues. The issue of sidewalks will be added to the 2014-15 WKNA goals.

As a beautification project, Carol and Rhonda plan to plant flowers around the Cummings School reader board sign at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 8. Various Board members donated pansies to the effort. Anyone is welcome to come and help out. Rhonda said this could be a photo opp but she's opting to push for Keizertimes to photograph the WKNA clean-up on March 15.

Marijuana dispensary permitting task force -- Rhonda shared an email from Nate Brown, requesting a WKNA representative to the task force being formed to draft a permitting process for medical marijuana dispensaries in Keizer. The city has 150 days to get regulations in place. Art Mauer volunteered for this post.

Gubser Neighborhood report -- Rhonda noted that this is posted on the city website should Board members want to review it.

Keizer Rapids Playstructure report -- Ron reported on the planning group's Tuesday meeting. They adopted a logo and continued discussion of the design, which is being fine-tuned by the consultant. He shared a schematic, which continues to be revised. A discussion ensued when it was revealed that the Marion County and Keizer fire departments had vetoed a planned fire-hose water feature at the park. Ron emphasized that there would still be a water feature, just not the one originally proposed. He said a detailed design rendering will be available by the end of March.

The planning group also talked about fundraising and continued work to organize the team captains and work teams that will handle the community build. An events calendar is being assembled. Mark Callier is the general coordinator and 14 groups are involved.

Playstructure siting -- Rhonda noted that WKNA has taken a position to site the Big Toy in Area B. She said that since an alternative site along Chemawa has been suggested by the Mayor, WKNA's position needs to be clarified, with advantages and disadvantages listed. She also said that the proposal of a third potential site, especially one dependent on the UGB process, muddies the water of successfully proceeding with this project. Board members filled out surveys and all were in support of Area B as the preferred site, citing the following advantages: It concentrates attractions in one area (the Amphitheater, the boat ramp, the play structure, the future education center at Charge House, etc.); it has access to paths, roads and existing parking before any special parking is built; it has ready access to water; it's close to the existing bathroom at the boat ramp.

Upcoming meetings -- The next general meeting is 7 p.m. March 13 at the civic center. Cathy Clark will discuss transportation issues to include road improvements in Keizer, with an update on Chemawa Road and sidewalks; the Willamette River crossing; possibly the Columbia River crossing; Oregon passenger rail; and a pedestrian crossing to the Kroc Center. In addition Christine Dieker will talk about the Iris Festival and planned festival fun run, which will be routed through West Keizer along Shoreline Dr. and Manbrin Dr. to Cherry Ave.

The April 10 general meeting will feature Nate Brown talking about KRP and the UGB expansion. Bill Lawyer will be asked to present a Public Works update (Clint suggested that Robert Johnson be invited as well.) Eric Bandonis again unable to attend.

The May 8 general meeting will include presentations on Keizer Community Gardens and the Keizer Food Bank, as well as an update on the Keizer Rapids Park play structure. Eric Bandonis will be back.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.