

West Keizer Neighborhood Association Board Meeting Minutes

Jan. 4, 2018

Rhonda Rich's home

Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA secretary

Attending: Gary Blake, Rhonda Rich, Carol Doerfler, Art Mauer, Dennis Phipps, Kris Adams, Carolyn Homan

Call to order – President Gary Blake called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Approval of Nov. 2, 2017 Board meeting minutes – Carol moved approval of the minutes as submitted and Dennis seconded. Motion carried.

Budget for 2017-18 – Rhonda has spent \$45.99 for an ink cartridge. Rhonda said we will need to look at future expenses soon in preparation of the 2018-19 budget. Carol asked about the need for more brochures. Rhonda said we should get another 500, which will cost \$225 to \$250.

Getting the Word Out –

Website – Rhonda will get the general meeting agenda to Barb this weekend for posting to web.

Facebook and Keizer Chamber, KT, KYKN, K23 – Carol said made the Keizertimes deadline this time. She will get the meeting information posted to Facebook on Friday. The other outlets are handled.

Signs – Art and Dennis have their system in place and signs will go out Sunday or Monday. They don't think we will need to order more signs for the coming year.

SJ, KМУZ – Carolyn said the calendar notices are posted, even though the SJ “Eventful” calendar process continues to be problematic.

Brochure holders – Carol said she will check with Pronto Signs about getting a sticker of some kind to put on the brochure holders that directs people to the WKNA Facebook page and/or website as a source of information in addition to the brochures.

Little Library – It continues to do well.

Report – Stakeholder meeting Dec. 6 with Nate Brown re: Keizer UBG

Carol and Gary attended. Carol said Colleen Busch represented Southeast Keizer Neighborhood Association and Suzanne McConnell represented Gubser. Councilors Kim Freeman and Laura Reid were there along with other citizens to meet with representatives (architects, engineers, etc.) of an organization that provides guidance to cities on UGB issues. They asked about how Keizer had grown. The main issue raised by citizens was traffic, especially River Road, Lockhaven and now Cherry Avenue. Colleen, who is on the Transit District Board, offered some input on the planned Cherriots expansion, with new routes coming in 2018 to improve service.

Consultants also asked if citizens want Keizer to grow; if so, how do they want it to grown and where. It was emphasized that more housing can't just be multi-family, because that's discriminatory. They said projections of the need for more housing are based on estimates produced from research done by Portland State University.

The consultants met with groups all day long (fire/police, businesses, the Chamber of Commerce, builders and developers, the school district, real estate representatives, etc.), ending with a Planning Commission meeting. Information will be compiled and the city plans public forums to discuss further. WKNA will need to help get the word out re: the public forums in order to get the most feedback possible.

Parks Discussion:

1) Letter to Council regarding Sunset Park safety – Rhonda shared the response from Marion County, which basically said the commission has no jurisdiction in the matter. WKNA has heard nothing new from the city of Keizer. Chief League indicated warning signs had been posted at the gravel pit/shooting range. Dennis said he would check on that. Carolyn will check with Barb Smith to see if she has heard anything new from Shirley DeShon, who led the presentation by concerned citizens at City Council. We can revisit the issue with Shirley when she returns from wintering in Arizona.

2) Willamette Manor tennis courts – There has been nothing new on repairs. Carol said she would attend the Parks Advisory Board meeting next Tuesday to press the matter. More Board members are encouraged to attend if they can. Carol emailed Robert Johnson about this today but has not heard back. Robert's most recent communication was an Oct. 10 email in which he said the city may have to reach out to other vendors because of issues with the installing vendor. City staff can't handle the repair job themselves.

3) Smoking in the parks – Darrell Richardson testified against this at the Oct. 10 Parks Advisory Board meeting and a story in the Keizertimes noted that only Jim Taylor was pushing a ban. Rhonda said she will try to be at the Tuesday Parks board meeting to talk about a ban because she sees it as a major fire issue at Keizer Rapids Park. Carol noted that KRP is a regional park and since the city of Salem and Marion County both ban smoking in their parks, KRP should be included. Gary made a motion that the Board back a ban on smoking at KRP except in the parking lots. Art seconded. Motion carried.

Delight Street Improvements – A partial, temporary (hog fuel) path is in place behind the fence on the west side of Delight from the school to the break in the fence. Carol said Public Works Director Bill Lawyer still has not heard back from the Salem-Keizer School District regarding the necessary easement in order to install a permanent pedestrian path. The new state transportation bill includes money for Safe Routes to School and that committee will meet soon to designate schools with issues that need to be addressed. Carol will contact Bill about the possibility of pursuing a grant.

Adopt-a-Street – Kim and Ron Freeman are resigning as coordinators of this project. Carol said we need to find out how long the city plans to use inmate crews for regular cleanups along Chemawa, which has made our cleanups unnecessary. Art noted that Bill Lawyer said the city was considering contracting with a landscape firm to properly maintain the rain gardens. It was decided to make a decision at the next Board meeting whether to find a new street cleanup target, adopt a new project (such as helping out at John Knox Community Garden) or move on to another effort.

Volunteer of the Quarter – Richard Boyes: Rhonda said she has not had time to pursue this and will carry it over to next month.

Topics for Upcoming General Meetings – Kris said Jill Bonney-Hill, president of Keizer Points of Interest Committee, will speak at the January meeting. The committee recently researched and installed informational signs at Keizer Rapids Park detailing the major floods in Keizer. Next project is an informational kiosk at Claggett Creek Park on the Huber Farm property, which is to become a housing development.

The February speaker will be Kathy Lincoln, Transit District Board member, on the Cherriots expansion. The March meeting will feature Danielle Bethell, Chamber of Commerce executive. Other presenters include Parole Officer Max Casquero at the Feb. 8 meeting, and Parole Officer Eric Bandonis in May, September and November.

Carol asked that the Board set goals for 2018-19, since none were officially adopted this past year. Once adopted, these need to be posted on the web.

Review of January General Meeting agenda – Carol asked who will lead the elections process. Gary has done it in the past. Rhonda announced she cannot continue as Vice President but does hope to be able to continue on the Board. Gary announced that he would like others to consider serving as President.

Annual WKNA Report to City Council – This was done in January last year. It could be Jan. 15 or 29 this year, or Feb. 2. Carolyn said she has started it and will work to finish it as soon as possible. She will send it out so Board can double-check for outside meeting information that may have been missed. There were a lot of extra informational meetings attended by Board this year, including Parks, the Parks/Police fees forums, Delight Street Improvements, the Tate Ave. pre-Eclipse meeting, etc.

Next Board meeting – 7 p.m. Feb. 4, 2018, at Carol's house.

Meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.