

West Keizer Neighborhood Association General Meeting Minutes

Jan. 10, 2019

Keizer Civic Center

Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA secretary

Call to order – Past President Gary Blake called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. and welcomed about 13 attendees. Introductions were made around the room. City Councilor Roland Herrera invited everyone to attend the upcoming McNary Hall of Fame banquet, March 15. Mayor Cathy Clark also urged everyone to attend the McNary production of “Grease.”

Approval of Minutes for Nov. 8, 2018 – Rhonda Rich made a motion to approve the minutes from the November meeting, as submitted and posted on WKNA's website. Dennis Phipps seconded. Motion carried.

Budget for 2018-19, Rhonda – \$75 has been spent on printing and \$60 on signage for a total of \$135 from the approved \$500 budget.

Guest Speakers: Gary introduced Keizer Police Chief John Teague, who talked about the department's evidence-based approach to policing. He said the department values relationships with the community. They teach policemen and women to value and use relationships to help prevent and solve crimes. Seeing “people as people” with an outward mindset improves outcomes.

He talked about the new hires that have been made with the police fee funding. Despite those additions, he said the night shift still needs help and the department also anticipates 10 retirements in the next two years. He said an expanded traffic team has helped curb what was an uptick in injury accidents in the city. He also said a change in the school resource officer position and how Department of Human Service reports are handled have worked out well.

In answer to a question, he and Mayor Clark both said that citizens can help make the city safer by locking their cars. Another question involved the fact that no caretaker lives at Keizer Rapids Park now. Chief Teague said officers are in the parks routinely but can't patrol all of them every day. He said keeping the brushy areas cleaned out would help because homeless could not camp as easily. Mayor Clark said the Claggett Creek Watershed Council has taken on that task.

He addressed the homeless situation, saying that Keizer does not allow people to camp. They are given 24-hour notice and then they need to move on. The group thanked Chief Teague for his time and the job he does.

Reports

Council Liaison – Mayor Clark filled in for Councilor Kim Freeman, who is on medical leave. She said two new councilors, Elizabeth Smith and Dan Kohler, were sworn in on Monday. She is starting her third term as mayor. Looking ahead to the city budget, she said PERS and 911 service are two big unfunded mandates. She said the city will need to look at staffing levels because the city's population is up even though its boundaries haven't changed and she has concerns about burning people out.

The Urban Growth Boundary is the other big issue facing the council. She said the state Department of Land Conservation and Development has devised a process regarding the shared UGB to allow Keizer to split from Salem. It's very complicated because UGB expansion impacts other jurisdictions, including the fire district and Salem-Keizer schools. Other big issues ahead include housing and homelessness.

She announced that a Cascade Farm and Feed store is scheduled to go into the old Roth's space at Schoolhouse Square.

Election of 2019-20 Board of Directors and officers for WKNA – Gary asked for nominations for a President, Vice President, Secretary and four Board members.

Cathy Clark nominated Carol Doerfler to continue as President. Carol Phipps seconded. (Carol had indi-

cated her willingness to serve again. She could not attend the meeting because of a trip to see her mother.)

Rhonda nominated Carol Phipps to be Vice President; Cathy seconded. (Kris Adams recently resigned due to family issues.)

Kathy Lincoln nominated Carolyn Homan as Secretary; Dennis Phipps seconded.

Board members – Carolyn nominated Art Mauer; Carol Phipps nominated Rhonda; Dennis nominated Gary; Dennis nominated Kathy Lincoln.

Gary asked for a motion to approve the nominated Board officers and members by acclamation. Bob DeVore so moved; Davis Dyer seconded. Motion carried. The slate was elected.

Upcoming meetings

Next WKNA Board meeting: Feb. 7, 7 p.m., Carol Doerfler's home

Next WKNA General meeting: Feb. 14, 7 p.m., Keizer Civic Center. Speaker TBA

WKNA General Meeting March 14 – Mayor Cathy Clark will speak. She will give her State of the City address March 12 to Keizer Chamber of Commerce.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.