

WKNA General Meeting

Nov. 13, 2025, 7 p.m.

At Keizer Civic Center

Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA Secretary

24 people in attendance

Call to Order: President Rhonda Rich called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Minutes of the Oct. 9 meeting – Kris Adams moved approval; Art Mauer seconded. Motion carried.

Budget Report for July 2024-July 2025 \$1,200 budget – Expenditures so far of \$206.90 for 250 copies of August newsletter; \$43.99 for printer ink; \$25.15 for copies of Pavilion consultant information, leaving a balance of \$922.96

Introductions – These were made around the room, including Rilee Ashby, a representative from Rep. Kevin Mannix’s office, City Council President Shaney Starr, Councilor Kyle Juran (both liaisons to WKNA) and Councilor Lore Christopher.

Guest speaker -- Rhonda introduced Stacey Perry, Environmental Education Coordinator for the City of Keizer. She talked about the importance of protecting our local waterways and groundwater. Stormwater runoff from streets, sidewalks, parking lots, etc. goes into creeks, streams and eventually the Willamette River. Pollutants can affect fish and wildlife. The city sponsors stewardship efforts such as Trashy Tuesday park cleanups to help prevent pollutants and litter from washing into waterways. This year’s cleanups – at parks including Wallace House, Sunset and Keizer Rapids – collected over 100 pounds of trash and involved more than 60 volunteers.

The Adopt-A-Street program has signed up sponsors for 33 streets, with only Cummings and Oneill still available for adoption. The goal is the same – to regularly pick up trash and litter to prevent it from getting washed into the storm system,

The City’s Streamside Plant program aims to improve streamside health by planting native plants and shrubs that are a benefit to wildlife and also help lower water temperature in streams, improving conditions for fish.

An Education and Training Program takes informational displays to events such as Earth Day and Public Works Day. Stacey also conducted an Outdoor School and worked with home school groups. A training for city workers involves illicit discharge detection and elimination and cleanup of spills.

Her department is part of a Mid-Willamette Outreach group that has sponsored an “Our River” campaign that held Learn to Kayak and Learn to Fish programs to introduce more people to the joys of river recreation and the benefits of keeping waterways clean. Another recent departmental effort is an Urban Tree Inventory to enlist volunteers to collect data on Keizer’s street trees.

For more information, she can be reached at perrys@keizerOR.gov

Matt Lawyer – Rhonda then introduced Matt, who is chairman of the Parks Advisory Board to talk about current work to potentially reopen the Parks Master Plan in order to site a pavilion structure at Keizer Rapids Park.

When the Master Plan was updated in 2021, he said an earlier provision for an indoor facility at KRP was omitted. The Master Plan dictates what amenities can be developed in Keizer parks. After Covid, the idea of a facility to house a variety of events, activities and/or or youth sports – resurfaced. Marion

Co. provided a grant to hire consultants to look at reopening the master plan. The parks board reviewed the 7 options presented in the consultants' case study at its October meeting. He said board members are generally in favor but the specifications are still fuzzy – what size, where would a structure be placed, etc. Councilors Starr, Juran and Christopher weighed in on the matter. Councilor Christopher said that whatever is included in the Master Plan should be general enough that the plan would not have to be updated again to accommodate whatever idea comes to fruition. As to size, Councilor Juran said the minimum would be 100x40 ft, which is the size of the Keizer Fest tent rented each year by the Chamber of Commerce. The pavilion would end the necessity to rent a tent.

There were some questions about breadth of community outreach. A booth at Keizer Fest hosted by the consultants drew about 50 responses but not all those were from Keizer residents. WKNA did a survey at the May meeting and Rhonda also handed one out at this meeting to gather input.

Meeting attendees raised some concerns about creating more traffic on Chemawa Road, which is already an issue because of activities at the new turf fields. Parking for any new facility was seen as another issue. Councilor Starr said she would like more targeted conversation with citizens and the idea of a town hall to discuss was mentioned.

The Parks Board is to take up the consultants case study at its Dec. 9 meeting. Selecting a site in the park for any facility needs to be decided.. The 3 councilors agreed that any construction is probably years in the future. They talked about adding discussion of the pavilion concept and how to get more community input to the Council's Nov. 17 agenda.

REPORTS

City Council -- Councilor Shaney Starr said the 3 councilors had just come from a work group meeting on the city's strategic plan. The group got through 2 goals and will meet Friday, Dec. 5 to work through the remaining goals. The plan then will go to a Council work session. There is information on the City website.

The Police Fee Task Force is waiting on a data report from the department so it can proceed. Information for this is also on the web.

Shaney met with City Manager Brown and West Keizer representatives Rhonda Rich, Carolyn Homan and Mandy Hansen to discuss how best to notify neighbors of KRP about "out-of-the-ordinary" events happening at the park. Recently, a Nike commercial was filmed at the park but notification of neighbors came late – the morning the ad was to be filmed. The production involved use of several huge lights, directed right at the Tate Ave. neighborhood, The lights were on from dusk until 5 or so the next morning. In future, notification by email or text is to be set up at least 10 days before any "out-of-the-ordinary" event, with a reminder sent closer to the actual date.

FOOD BARRELS -- Oct.: 150 lbs. BiMart and 269 lbs.+\$60 at Copper Creek
First week of Nov.: 187 lbs. BiMart and 495 lbs. +\$200 at CC

Judi Leichty, manager of Keizer Community Food Bank, said need is up substantially. They served 205 families Nov. 3 and 220 Nov. 6, turning away another 20. On Mon., Nov. 10, 122 were served and 180 Nov. 13. Need always rises closer to Thanksgiving, she said. Last year, the Monday before Thanksgiving, the food bank served 278 families and they expect more this year. The food bank is open to accept donation deliveries on Mondays and Wednesdays between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

CUMMINGS SCHOOL

NEIGHBORHOOD FAMILY COUNCIL, Kris Adams – The Oc. 28 Harvest Fest event drew 135 families and more than 500 participants. There was music, games, a pumpkin patch and pizza, plus gift card giveaways.

PTA – Mandi Hansen is the new WKNA liaison to PTA. She announced that the school butter braid sale fundraiser is underway and she can email the link for online orders.

LITTLE LIBRARY/KEIZER COMMUNITY LIBRARY – Kris said LL is going well and she has lots of books right now. At Keizer Community Library, new manager Emily Stockdale is getting settled and working out well. The fall book sale brought in about \$2,000.

FRIENDS OF THE COMMUNITY LIBRARY GROUP -- Shaney said Articles of Incorporation were filed today for this new group, which has been formed to help fund the library.

PLANNING COMMISSION -- Robb said the November meeting allowed a conditional use for Area B at Keizer Station for an auto services business.

MEETINGS AND EVENTS

NEIGHBORHOOD TOWN HALL (not a city meeting) – The Ila Vey Keizer Master Plan Development at River Road and McNary Estates Drive will be the subject of this town hall, 6-8 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 18, at Keizer Events Center/City Hall.

Parks Board -- Next meeting, 6 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 9

Multi-Modal Safety Comm. – 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 20

Next WKNA Board Meeting – 7 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 11

No WKNA General Meeting in Dec.

Annual WKNA meeting with elections of 2026 Board members and officers, 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 8

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 p.m.