

2014 ANNUAL ASSOCIATION REPORT
for the
WEST KEIZER NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

January 9, 2014 Annual Meeting at the Keizer Civic Center

Elections were held for WKNA officers and directors, facilitated by Gary Blake. Board members were approved unanimously and election results were as follows:

- Rhonda Rich, President
- Carol Doerfler, Vice President
- Carolyn Homan, Secretary
- Directors: Gary Blake, Art Mauer, Ron Freeman and Clint Holland

Rick Hammerquist was recognized for his service on the board for 3 years and 2013 Vice President. Rick contributed to the play structure at Willamette Manor Park and participated in projects at Keizer Rapids Park and Claggett Creek Park. His suggestion of placement of berms around the KRP marine facility and communicating with a property owner regarding air cannon noise was appreciated.

Davis Dyer was recognized for his service on the board for two years. Davis created the WKNA website and tri-fold informational flyer. He also participated as a WKNA representative to the Keizer Fire Department Citizen's Advisory Committee.

Chief John Teague and Lt. Andrew Copeland of the Keizer Police Dept. discussed changes in the police work in recent years, including long required training and probationary periods for new officers, a code of ethics and a body of knowledge called evidence-based policing. Members were encouraged to fill out a citizen survey on traffic and safety in Keizer that would be sent out in the mail. After the presentation, a question-answer session was held regarding Peer Court, prevention of crimes, Neighborhood Watch programs and crisis intervention.

Ron Freeman, the WKNA representative to the Keizer Rapids Park play structure taskforce gave an update on project fundraising and planning.

January 16 - Email notification was sent out to all members regarding the **Shoreline Dr. project** meeting.

February 13, 2014 General Meeting at the Keizer Civic Center

Sgt. Eric Bandonis, the Keizer-area Parole and Probation Officer for the Marion County Sheriff's Office, described his work with parolees and programs that reduce recidivism. He also commented that average caseloads had decreased by 4%. Members were reminded to lock their cars and houses to prevent burglaries.

Linda Baker gave a presentation on Homegrown Theater and the upcoming play in March. She encouraged members present and citizens of Keizer to audition.

Jerry Wade with Keizer CERT, Paul Pfnister, CERT President and Michael Dye, a CERT Instructor talked about CERTS community events and how they came to the aid of citizens in need during the recent snowstorm. Members were encouraged to attend CERT classes which start in March.

Jeff Cowan, Keizer Fire Chief elaborated on the partnership that the KFD has with the Keizer CERT in emergency or natural disaster situations.

Councilor Marlene Quinn, Task Force Chair and Richard Walsh, Task Force Vice-Chair for the Keizer Rapids Park Play Structure gave a presentation which included: the Urban Growth Boundary expansion and how it may affect the siting of the play structure, fundraising efforts for the \$750,000 project and organizing volunteers for the build.

February 11- Parks Board Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, President of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, voiced support for siting the community build play structure in the site approved by the Parks Board and the Community Build Task Force. She noted that the Neighborhood Association is concerned that the play structure will be moved to the newly annexed land near Chemawa without adequate public input and that although the chosen site is not perfect, the Chemawa site is worse. She added that because there is so much foot traffic in the park the chosen site is the best one. Chair Smith noted that the construction date has been set and if the process has not been completed by that time, the playground will be sited in the recommended area.

February 28 - Rhonda Rich and Carol Doerfler met with **Cummings Elementary School Principal, Lisa Sundseth** and attended the March 11th PTC meeting to help build neighborhood connections with the school. Discussion centered on "Safe Routes to School". Principal Sundseth stated that the teachers probably would not have time to implement this program, but she was very supportive of **sidewalks on Delight St.** to improve "walkers" safety.

March 13, 2014 General Meeting at the Keizer Civic Center

Lt. Andrew Copeland elaborated on the occurrence of daytime burglaries and subsequent arrests in West Keizer. He shared suggestions to discourage this activity. Other topics were: transients in the neighborhood, bike patrols as part of the Community Response Team, phone scams, late night car break-ins and a recent homicide.

Sheri Tosi, Cummings Elementary School PTC President thanked the WKNA for **planting flowers at the school** and gave a report on upcoming school activities.

Councilor Cathy Clark presented information on the third bridge across the Willamette

River, Chemawa Rd. and Shoreline Dr. improvements, safe access along roads to Cummings Elementary School, an overpass over the Parkway to the Kroc Center and a roundabout at the intersection of Verda Ln. & Chemawa Rd.

Ron Freeman reported that he and **City Councilor Kim Freeman** were in charge of the volunteer committee for the Big Toy. A survey from the WKNA February general meeting and March 6th Board meeting WKNA showed support of building the play structure in “Area B” by the amphitheater and big tree. A collection of monies from the members for **\$50 was dedicated to purchase a commemorative picket** with the lettering of **“W Keizer Neighbors”**.

March 6 - Art Mauer, WKNA Board member, volunteered to be the **WKNA representative to the Medical Marijuana Facilities Regulations Task Force.**

March 8 - Beautification project at Cummings Elementary. The PTC purchased the flowers and **Copper Creek Mercantile** donated barkdust.

March 11 - Rhonda and Carol attend the **PTC meeting at Cummings.**

March 15 - Adopt a Street Cleanup Day for Chemawa Rd. from River Rd. N to Keizer Rapids Park was held with approx. 16 participants. **Gary Blake was the Adopt a Street organizer for WKNA.**

April 10, 2014 General Meeting at the Keizer Heritage Center

Nate Brown, Community Development Director, provided an update on **Keizer’s UGB expansion process.** He explained the comprehensive plan designation for “park”; the purpose of a “public” zone, and the permitted uses, special permitted uses and the conditional uses possible within a public zone. He stated that the Planning Commission was recommending that a Master Plan be developed for the newly annexed land and that the land be designated for park uses only with no housing development. The attendees concurred with the three items of concern that were submitted by the WKNA to the city and Rhonda encouraged members to attend the Public Hearing before the City Council on May 5th (see below for items on May 5th Council meeting). Nate also gave an update on the Medical Marijuana Facilities Regulations Task Force.

Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director, stated that the city’s annual street resurfacing program included nine streets, six of which were in West Keizer. He elaborated on the Chemawa Rd. N. and Shoreline Dr. projects.

Councilor Joe Egli and Christine Dieker, Executive Director of the Keizer Chamber of Commerce shared information on the **Keizer Iris Festival and Fun Run.**

April 2 - WKNA submitted a letter of support for the Community-Build Playground for a grant of \$150,000 from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept.

April 9 - Rhonda testified at the **Public Hearing for the Planning Commission** regarding the **UGB Amendment/Comprehensive Plan Change/Zone Change/Annexation Case No. 2014-05**.

April 16 - **WKNA Special Board meeting at Keizer Rapids Park** to discuss various locations of the **KRP play structure**.

April 17 - Rhonda, Carol & Carolyn attend the **GGNA meeting** at which one of Portland's NA Presidents shared information on her association's successes.

April 24 -Traffic Bikeways Pedestrian Committee - Rhonda requested that **improvements on Delight St.** be considered in future budgeting & planning.

Clint Holland reported that work was being done to **irrigate & plant grass seed at Sunset Park**. Members were encouraged to assist in the project.

May 8, 2014 General Meeting at Keizer Civic Center

Eric Bandonis, deputy with Marion County Sheriff's Office stationed out of Keizer Police Dept. shared information on "protecting our kids" and an update on parole and probation cases.

Tanya Hamilton of Keizer United elaborated on the group's involvement in Youth Peer Court, Mid Valley Literacy Center, SE Keizer Community Center and community gardens.

Nancy Morgan, a volunteer with the Keizer Food Bank at Faith Lutheran Church, which serves approx. 300 families per month stated that many groups in the community contribute to serving the food bank.

Ian Dixon-McDonald, Farm & Garden Coordinator for the Marion Polk Food Share (MPFS). The MPFS is a hub and a large warehouse where USDA food and other large donations from processors, grocers, farms and a food rescue program called Fresh Alliance are collected and distributed. Last year, it served 40,000 individuals per month and moved 9 million pounds of food. MPFS has partnerships to encourage self-sufficiency and healthy lifestyles and provides training programs in preparation for jobs.

Mary Jo Emmett, coordinator of the Community Garden at John Knox Presbyterian Church, stated that Keizer United, MPFS and Sunrise Rotary provided grants. There are 18 plots with 2 grown exclusively for the food bank. The garden is an outreach ministry of the church.

Tow Truck Parking in the City of Keizer was discussed. Rhonda said that a public forum will be held on June 2 to discuss changing an ordinance to allow tow trucks to park in residential neighborhoods. The general consensus at the meeting was to oppose a change to the present ordinance.

May 5 - City Council Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, Keizer, President of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, voiced support for the **Urban Growth Boundary expansion and stated the Association's request to designate the annexed area for park use, continue the existing buffer to Chemawa Road, and to develop a master plan for the area before doing anything to the filbert orchard.** She encouraged Council to accept the Planning Commission recommendation and to include the entire community in the master planning process.

May 10 - Flyers regarding the **Iris Festival Fun Run** were distributed to approximately 100 households on Shoreline Dr. and Chemawa Rd. (part of the Willamette Valley Scenic Bike Trail). Members were encouraged to cheer runners on and park off street for the safety of the runners.

May 13- Parks Board Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, West Keizer Neighborhood Association, expressed excitement about being involved in the for Keizer Rapid **master planning process for Keizer Rapids Park.** She urged the Board to consider master planning all 58 acres, not just the 28-acre orchard, noting that the play structure will change the makeup of the park and that should be considered when doing the master plan. She suggested that a charette be held and that leaders who know how to plan a park be included in the process; perhaps a college intern. Chair Smith explained that the schedule would be discussed later in the meeting.

May 15 - Rhonda, Carol & Carolyn attended the GGNA meeting at which amenities for Keizer Rapids Park Master Plan were prioritized by Gubser members.

May 19 - Safe Routes to School Program meeting at Keizer Civic Center. Rhonda, Carol, Carolyn and Eric Peterson attended. Eric represents Cummings Elementary School on the Safe Routes to School program.

May 31 - Email notification sent to members to rake in grass seed at **Sunset Park** along with organizer **Clint Holland. John Henke, Carol & Martin Doerfler and Darrell Richardson were a few of the volunteers.**

June 12, 2014 Special General Meeting at Keizer Civic Center

Special Guests: **Robert Johnson**, Parks and Facilities supervisor with the City of Keizer; **John Morgan**, consultant to the city who will facilitate an upcoming design charette regarding amenities to be placed in areas of Keizer Rapids Park that were recently brought within the Urban Growth Boundary; and members of Keizer's Parks Advisory Board: **Brandon Smith, David Loudon, Rowland Herrera, Richard Walsh and Marlene Quinn**, council liaison to the parks board and chair of the Big Toy task force.

Rhonda lead the meeting and explained the "dotmocracy process" to identify preferred amenities for Keizer Rapids Park .Rhonda said each participant would get 12 sticky dots with which to vote on their top 12 amenities. People could then "place" the top 12 amenities on a handout she developed that listed the four major areas of the park: Area 1 (the open field area south of the dike); Area 2 (the filbert orchard); Area 3 (the "fairway" area that includes the dog park and amphitheater); and Area 4 (the natural, forested area to the west of the proposed UGB).

Participants then listed and discussed a variety of amenities – more than 20 – which included picnic areas (covered and not covered); open activity fields; parking; more rest rooms (real ones, not porta potties); a play structure; fitness stations; an observatory; a science/education center; BMX/motocross area; open play fields; a tree house; community gardens; horse shoe court; osprey nest poles; bird houses; sports courts; tennis courts; more trails – and lighted trails; more connection to the river; buffer zone extension.

Open play fields were distinguished from sports or otherwise "designated" fields because participants saw a need for areas where families could throw a Frisbee, play bocce ball, etc. It was suggested that a science/education center could be developed in cooperation with Straub Environmental Center.

Participants were also asked to fill out a questionnaire asking; What do you like most about the park presently?: Are there things that you would like to see done differently in the current area of the park (excludes the filbert orchard)?: The vision for Keizer Rapids Park in the 2006 master plan was to connect the community to the Willamette River. How do you see this best accomplished?

Connection to the river was discussed. Jerry Nuttbrock noted that he has sternwheeler paddlewheels that he would like to include in a display at the park. Others agreed that a sternwheeler history education area would be an appropriate part of any Connection to the River amenity, noting that the Willamette River at one time was the I-5 of the local economy. Jerry directed people to a sternwheeler on display in Hood River as an example of what might be done. As with any project, he said, "this one will only succeed if people come together and push it forward."

June 2 -City Council Special Session -Tow Truck Parking (excerpt from minutes)

Jeff Kelder, Keizer, expressed support for the current ordinance which relieved him of a tow truck parking in front of his house in past years. He urged that tow trucks not be allowed to park in neighborhoods.

Rhonda Rich, Keizer, speaking on behalf of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, urged that parking of tow trucks be prohibited in residential neighborhoods.

Carol Doerfler, Keizer, stated that she did not feel she was in danger while waiting for tow trucks and suggested that tow companies provide a place for their drivers to stay when they are on call.

Darrell Richardson, Keizer, voiced support for the current parking ordinance and suggested that like the volunteer fire department, there be a central location where the trucks are kept and drivers meet to respond to calls.

June 2 - WKNA submits a letter of support to the Marion County Projects Grant Program for the Community Build Play structure at Keizer Rapids Park. The grant was successful for \$30,000.

June 10- Parks Board Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, West Keizer Neighborhood Association President, announced that the WKNA would hold a special meeting on Thursday night to **prioritize amenities and perhaps consider location of the amenities** related to the Keizer Rapids Park Master Plan Update.

Carol Doerfler, Keizer, announced that the **Palma Ciega pool** was for sale. She provided a history of the facility and asked if the City could purchase the pool and run it as an aquatic center like Salem and Dallas. Public Works Director Bill Lawyer responded that he had already been contacted about it but the City does not have the funding to purchase or operate a pool. Ms. Doerfler suggested that perhaps funding could be attained through grants. Clint Holland expressed the desire to give the issue further consideration noting that there are different groups who might help. Richard Walsh urged Ms. Doerfler to get information regarding maintenance, the cost of liability insurance, and staffing needs. He noted that the City already has a partnership with *citizens already have access to* the Kroc Center and there are other businesses in Keizer that have pools and may not appreciate the City infringing on their business. Brandon Smith asked Ms. Doerfler to come back with a comparison of costs for similar facilities. It was noted that the Northview and Willamette Manor pools were struggling to stay afloat as well.

June 26 - Traffic, Bikeways, Pedestrian Safety Committee

Rhonda, Carol and Art attended the meeting as a way to continue promoting the importance of getting sidewalks along Delight to aid student safety. The idea has gained momentum and Bill Lawyer is working on a couple of scenarios. Art said Bill said there's room for sidewalks but not bike paths as well, which creates a problem if that will leave a gravel area between the sidewalk and the street. Bill is planning to meet with representatives from WKNA, the school and the PTC. A traffic study confirms the heavy traffic load in the area.

June 28 - Rhonda received an email from a distraught neighbor on Manbrin Ave. about an abandoned home attracting squatters. The issue was sent to Chief Teague and Lt. Copeland. The matter was resolved quickly and the member was very grateful.

July - No general meeting

July 1 - Email notification sent to members about the **KRA Concert Series**.

July 7 - City Council Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, Keizer, West Keizer Neighborhood Association President, voiced support for no parking on Shoreline because the parked vehicles pose a safety hazard for traffic coming off Rafael. Mr. Lawyer noted that there are no regulations in place for home occupations but he has spoken to a representative of the facility and parking is available in several locations. Mayor Christopher asked Mr. Lawyer to draft a letter to be posted in the facility describing the alternate parking areas.

July 8- Parks Board Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, West Keizer Neighborhood Association President, **distributed copies of the Minutes from the special WKNA meeting held to prioritize amenities and suggest amenity locations at Keizer Rapids Park**. Chair Smith reviewed the timeline noting that the August meeting would consist of prioritizing proposed amenities. Locating the amenities would be done at the design charette in September.

July 23 - Planning Commission Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, representing the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, spoke in opposition to changing the ordinance noting that having tow trucks parked in driveways would be a safety hazard and adversely affect the livability of neighborhoods. She urged that the current ordinance remain in effect

July 26 Adopt-a- Street Cleanup on Chemawa Rd.

August - No general meeting

August 12 - Parks Board Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Carol Doerfler, Keizer, spoke in opposition of putting athletic fields in Keizer Rapids Park noting that she felt the area should be left as natural as possible. She suggested that the five acres by Volcano Stadium be used for sports fields.

Aug. 18- City Council Meeting - Public Hearing- (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, Keizer, President of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, voiced opposition to allowing tow truck parking in residential areas and urged that the ordinance passed in 2005 be left unchanged. **Council voted 5 to 0 to leave the ordinance remain unchanged.**

August 20 - WKNA members are invited to the John Knox Presbyterian Church Community Bar-b-que. Rhonda & Carol gave an introduction to the WKNA.

Cummings Principal, Lisa Sundseth and several office personnel attended and spoke about activities planned for the fall. Info was published by Carol Doerfler on Facebook.

September 11, 2014 General Meeting at Keizer Civic Center

Rhonda asked the group of 16 participants to break into three sections to brainstorm where amenities might be placed. Lists of the amenities lists from the June 12th WKNA meeting were provided, along with maps of Keizer Rapids Park and smaller maps of the three main areas of the park to be considered for amenity placement. Rhonda asked the groups to work for about 20 minutes and then come back together for discussion of the decisions.

In the conclusion, Area One (the open field area closest to the river) emphasized picnic areas and open play fields, the Big Toy in the original “big tree” site, rest rooms and drinking fountains. Area Two (The section encompassing the as-yet unplanned orchard area east of the dog park over to Tate) included an indoor facility, parking, community gardens as a buffer to Tate Ave. on the east side of the “orchard” area and a variety of sports fields. Area Three (The west section from the dog park down to the amphitheater and “big tree” area originally suggested for the Big Toy) put the Big Toy in the “big tree” site, sited a science center/observatory in the Charge House, along with rest rooms, and added parking, a volleyball court and a picnic shelter south of the dog park. Rhonda took the maps and suggestions to the Design Charette on Sept. 27th.

September 24 - Birding field trip with the **Audubon Society at Keizer Rapids Park** was organized by **Carolyn Homan**.

September 27 - Design Charettes for Keizer Rapids Park Master Plan

Rhonda represented the WKNA priorities of amenities.

October 9, 2014 General Meeting at Keizer Civic Center

WKNA Vice President Carol Doerfler welcomed guests **Roland Herrera and Matt Chappell, candidates for Keizer City Council and Cathy Clark, candidate for mayor of Keizer.**

Cathy said she plans to continue on transportation issues, believes in the importance of media use to increase communication and wants to update the River Road Renaissance to grow the economic base of Keizer.

Roland stated that working for the city of 20 years gave him good knowledge of all Keizer's neighborhoods and work on the Parks Advisory Board gives him a parks focus. He would like to involve youth in city activities and bring jobs to Keizer.

Matt Chappell said that he would like to bring in new businesses and development opportunities to Keizer and expand the Urban Growth Boundary

The group discussed a variety of issues posed by the three different design plans for KRP created at the Sept. 27th Design Charettes, including placement of the Big Toy, bathrooms and parking lots, walking paths (hard surface and gravel), access for people of all abilities, bus access, keeping the orchard and letting it go natural as an environmental succession study in conjunction with a science center; extending the buffer to the neighborhood all the way to Chemawa; keeping the open play field area closest to the river. It was decided that Design No. 1 was closest to WKNA's priorities, if the multi-use sports field in the lower open play area was removed. Members were encouraged to attend the public hearing on Nov. 3rd at the City Council Meeting.

October 11- Adopt a Street Cleanup of Chemawa R

October 14- Parks Board Meeting - Public Hearing to review concept design from Charettes and Develop Recommendation to Council (excerpt from minutes)

Carol Doerfler, Keizer, thanked **Clint Holland** for leading the grass and irrigation project at **Sunset Park**. She relayed the desires of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association for Keizer Rapids Park as follows: Flushing toilets, buffer area, and no sports courts/fields in the grassy area adjacent to the neighborhood. Speaking as a citizen, not representing the WKNA, Ms. Doerfler expressed support for partnering with the Straub Environmental Center for the education center at the Charge house.

Rhonda Rich, Keizer, voiced support for the educational facility, urged that the existing grassy area remain open space, and suggested that the paddle wheels be placed in that area and that the area could be used for overflow parking during big events.

November 13, 2014 General Meeting at Keizer Civic Center

Sgt. Bob Trump, Keizer Police Dept., reported on the recent clean-up of homeless camps at Wallace House Park and that the Community Response summer bike patrols were successful. He urged people to be vigilant during the holidays by locking their cars and notifying neighbors if on vacation. He stated that vacant houses encourage drug problems and squatters and that the police dept. works on contacting the owners of the house to eliminate the problem. Rhonda asked if the police could do a night-time sweep every few months in West Keizer's riverfront parks. Sgt. Trump agreed that this should be no problem, since people are not to be in the parks at night.

Deputy Bandonis noted that case loads for parole/probation officers have dropped into more manageable levels. He's supervising 51 or so people and the average is 53, compared with the 90 or so people he was supervising when he started. He said the decrease is the result of the cognitive approach, "we're teaching them skills" -- things as simple as learning to have a conversation. They work on parenting skills, getting proper ID, setting up a bank account, applying for jobs, getting into school -- most anything the probationers need help with and that will help prevent more victims.

Bill Lawyer, Keizer Public Works Director, provided an overview of various public works projects: stormwater, drinking water, street improvement, water main replacement and parks projects. A new phenomenon is storm water swales to help purify runoff. These are being required in new subdivisions and projects such as the Chemawa Road improvements. He stated that all of Keizer's drinking water comes from wells. He encouraged people to call him if there is a problem with unusual smells of the water. As for water usage and your bill, Lawyer explained that the city calculates rates based on a four-month average. For West Keizer, November through February are used to set sewer rates. Being conservative in use during those months will lower your bills.

Rhonda asked about the issue of sidewalks or other improvements along Delight Street. Lawyer said the second round of traffic counts is in and he anticipates being able to start conversations about what to do early in 2015. Lawyer has only looked at right-away needs and talks also need to be initiated with the school district. He said the City Engineer does have some plans in the works.

November 3 -City Council Meeting-Public Hearing on the KRP Master Plan (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, Keizer, President of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, reviewed the efforts of the association during this process, noting that the association supported an open play area south of the dike with tables and shelters next to the river and placement of the Jean Sternwheeler in this area. She urged that picnic areas be included and the park be left as a natural, family friendly place with organized sports in the present filbert area, parking nearby and a buffer zone from the river to Chemawa Road.

Bob Warberg, Keizer, resident of Tate Avenue, thanked the City for including a buffer zone behind his house and urged that it be a sound and site buffer.

Darrrell Richardson, Keizer, questioned where the money would come from to develop the park, who would maintain it and how long it would take to be developed. Mayor Christopher explained that this is a 20-year Master Plan and that some amenities will happen sooner than others because they are being provided by volunteers. Other amenities will be funded by Park System Development Charges and grants.

Tom Holman, Keizer, suggested that the filbert orchard be left intact so that the Straub Environmental Center could study how an intensively managed orchard would change over time; children could experience how science works with test plots, data analysis and reports.

David Hilgemann, Keizer, voiced opposition to the extensive development planned for Keizer Rapids Park, urging that the park remain in its natural state. He expressed concern about making the park a 'tournament park' with a sports complex, additional paving, and lighted multi-use sports fields and pointed out that the neighborhood association had been assured that this would not happen because other areas in the city were better suited. He urged that the park remain open and natural.

Jim Hanson, Keizer, echoed comments made by Rhonda Rich and David Hilgemann, noting that there is a nice balance of activities in the proposed plan. He urged Council to guard the land south of the dike and path and approve the Parks Board recommendation.

Ruth Ann Fry, Keizer, voiced support for comments made by Tom Holman, David Hilgemann and Jim Hanson and for the buffer zone (made up of trees and berms) extending to Chemawa Road. She requested that any pathway be west of the buffer, expressed concern regarding potential traffic on Chemawa, urged that sports fields be located in other Keizer parks and questioned the source of grant funding. Mayor Christopher explained that government grants come from an allocation of taxes that citizens are already paying. Ms. Fry also urged that the location of the Big Toy be reconsidered to provide greater parental visibility and suggested more natural play structures rather than a Big Toy.

Patricia Fisher, Keizer, echoed some of the priorities voiced by previous testimony, particularly keeping the access to the river and the open play area south of the bike paths. She voiced support for the Parks Board recommendation but concern about the density and type of fields proposed and the potential for traffic. She expressed doubt that this park would be appropriate for the indoor facility but agreed that it should be placed near Chemawa Road and suggested that a loop configuration be incorporated to accommodate bus pick up and drop off.

Clint Holland, Keizer, Keizer, urged that more parking areas be incorporated into the master plan. He noted that the 250 spaces in the recommended plan will be insufficient when large games take place or when an event is held at the indoor sports facility.

The Council adopted the following amendments to the master plan.

- Reduce the buffer zone width to 25 feet and extend it to Chemawa Road
- If lighting is used in general (non-sports) areas, use 'dark sky' lighting
- Thin brush along the river bank
- Move fence to the east side of the picnic area and designate the area as a picnic area
- Add parking to the west end of the dog park and include an entrance
- Move the Big Toy east to the other side of the restroom
- Add parking for the amphitheater for overflow and ADA by the big tree, north of the marine facility parking
- Add horseshoe pit to "Amenities to be included in the Park"
- Change the open play area to read "open play and event area"
- Add signage and maps throughout the park
- Add bike parking and amenities to "Amenities to be included in the Park"
- Note that softball fields are 230' to 300'

November 17 - City Council Meeting (excerpt from minutes)

Rhonda Rich, speaking as President of the West Keizer Neighborhood Association, questioned if the existing pathway around the field would change since the width of the buffer zone has been reduced and urged that any new pathways be placed 50 feet from neighboring properties. Public Works Director responded that to his knowledge there would be no changes to the existing pathway.

December - No general meeting

For complete WKNA board and general meeting minute, and additional information, go to www.westkeizerna.org.

Respectfully submitted by Rhonda Rich, President of the WKNA