



NWKNA General Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2026 7:00 – 8:30pm

Location: Keizer Event Center

Meeting started at: 7:05 pm

Attendees: 11 see sign-in sheet

Meeting Started at:

1. Welcome and Introductions

Please Sign In, About the NWKNA, Name and Street, Board Members Roll Call

2. Approval of December 2025 General Meeting Minutes

Meeting minutes available at <https://northwestkeizer.org/about/meetings/>

- moved- Griffin
- seconded - Hersh
- yes - all
- No - none
- Abstain - none

3. Board Member Opening

We have one opening for a Board Member at large.

4. Guest Speaker

Robin Barney from Keizertimes

• Background info

- first Keizer newspaper - Oct 28, 1949
- Newspaper started by Hellen Olsen, fruit editor of Keizer news - sponsored by social organization - Keizer commercial club.
- Mid-1940s Keizer became more densely populated than its previous sparse farmland.
- Keizer Merchant Association developed in 1959 - helped businesses with all kinds of needs to establish them in Keizer.
- Keizer Chamber of Commerce took over this job in 1987.

• Keizertimes

- Keizertimes has been sold a couple times but this has never compromised the quality of its reporting.
- In the beginning, Keizertimes was a bimonthly newspaper.
- Keizertimes sponsors a lot of events and has received numerous awards in the publishing world.
- Keizertimes leadership has always tried to support the residents of Keizer by helping them or connecting them with resources or individuals that can help.

- Keizertimes has always made it a point to report news as it occurs and be unbiased, however, as technology moves toward the digital age, the Keizertimes will do the same; plans for Keizertimes to go fully digital are underway and plans to do so next year.
- New reporter has been hired.

5. Outreach, Projects and Website Updates

- **Graffiti program** - Hersh
 - No new locations - pending meeting with Sr Sgt at the end of the month.
 - Report graffiti through the city website.
- **Street art** - Tammy
 - Meeting with the school: McNary - on Newberg and Max Ct/MacArthur St. The design grid has been given to the art teacher at McNary High school so that the students can start planning how to blow it up to street crossing size (approx 20X20 feet) Follow up discussion after finals this semester so probably February.
 - Once all is completed - community day to create this on the ground.
 - Discussion with the cross street neighbors is underway.
- **Storm drain art** - Tammy
 - working with public works and discussion with the Arts commission next week.
- **Joint Neighborhood Association Efforts**
 - No updates at this time.
- **NWKNA website**
 - Discussion of addition of Keizer Elementary Amazon wishlist information and a page dedicated to Keizer Elementary.

6. City Council Update- Marlene Parsons

- New mural coming up at Los Dos Hermanos restaurant building. The same person that created the one in the bowling alley will be in charge of this one.
- New little league contract signed - pending execution. Redoing concession stand. New managers will address parking issues in this location.
- Next council meeting: discussion on swales on Laci Street will be had. February 2nd.
- New Public Works Director has been hired.

7. City Committee Updates - Various

- Multi-Modal Safety Committee -
 - outreach to all NAs for areas where crosswalks should be to establish a list of needs. Proposed new crosswalks - Elizabeth street and Chemawa, and Windsor Island and Lockhaven. City council proposal - to have city council review and recommend what should happen with the flag program.
 - Multi-Modal Safety Committee meetings are held monthly on the 3rd Thursday of each Month at the Keizer City Council Chambers from 6 to 7 pm.
- Community Diversity and Equity Committee
 - Last month they went to City Council with a proposal of a new annual event - Oct 4th this year- This even will mirror World Beat and will be called "all nations day".
 - Community Diversity and Equity Committee meetings are held Monthly on the first Thursday of every month at the Keizer City Council Chambers from 6 to 7:30 pm

8. School Updates

Keizer Elementary, McNary High School

- **Keizer Elementary** - Claudia (CSOCS)

- Claudia started a Closet at Keizer Elementary.
- Keizer Elementary has over 600 students and has added two additional classrooms this year.
- Keizer Elementary is a Title 1 school. There is a great need for assistance for our agricultural workers, low income students and many more here in Keizer. Care and Connect Closet - **Mendoza's Closet helps** meet the needs.
- Keizer Elementary was one of the first schools in Keizer to receive refugees.
- Keizer Elementary - Culture Club - students attend club during recess and learn about other cultures and try the food of those cultures.
- Claudia, with support from the NWKNA is in the process of creating an Amazon wishlist, this wishlist will have anything that Keizer Elementary students need to succeed and have their needs met. A flyer with a QR code is also in the works to allow ease of access; this flyer will be in Spanish and English.
 - NWKNA is in the process of add this all this information to its website so the Keizer community has access to the list.
 - **Immediate Need ' 25 bars of chewy bars ' Quaker chewy bars - because this has no nuts so it is safe for all kids**

Mendoza's Closet

<https://northwestkeizer.org/mendozascloset>

- New principal at the school - will attend NWKNA May meeting.
- **McNary High School**
 - McNary culinary art will be showcasing our very one Maryanne Sangster's family recipe for Monster Cookie, this recipe that is over 50 years old as it was passed down from Maryanne's mother. Maryanne was gracious enough to share the recipe with the students and is excited to see how those delicious cookies turn out.

9. Neighborhood Thoughts/Issues

Nothing was brought to the group.

Meeting Adjourned at: 8:29pm

Our next General Meeting will be February 18, 2026, 7:00 – 8:30pm at the Keizer Event Center. Our guest speaker will be Oliver Coker from the Keizer Liquor Store.

Donation boxes are available for Simonka Place and Keizer Food Bank at every meeting. Please consider donating needed items.