**Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association;**

**Meeting for April 1st, 2025**

**People in attendance for Teams;**

 Lisa, James D, Shawn, Thomas M, Nancy B, Jackie T, Jean G, Thomas D, Nancy L, Jacque Thomas, Amy L, (Nancy Grace (lead Teams), Lillian, Antonio, Linda M, Karen, Alice T, Alice M, Lisa B and Lizzy, Ken (22

**Zoom;** Tammy Kunz, Jacqueline Green, Marlene Parsons Keizer City Council, Hector Blanco Keizer Fire Department: Francisco Salvador Chemeketa Community College Guest Speakers, Jim J, Shawn C, [7]

Motion to approve minutes made by Beverly, and 2nd from Lillian motion approved unanimously

**Hector.** Update on calls for March 600 Fire, 40 EMS, we need 4 Neighborhood Associations volunteers. We have new ambulances, new paramedics. We had police and firemen visit Kennedy Elementary If you need help with shrubs, please contact [www.oregon.space](http://www.oregon.space/) . There will be a car seat clinic at the Fire Station on May 16th from 10-12 for appointment call 971-707-0742. They are free if you can't afford them or low cost.

Hector; can you please share with us on how we can enroll in some of the classes and if they are going to host classes on a different night from our meeting?

Call Anne Marie at the Fire Station. Or come into the station or email **keizerfire.com** or hectorblanco.comThe classes are held the 1st Tuesday of the month. I will try to send out a current event calendar. And a current resource list

These questions were asked to Hector

Hector, I want to say thank you, your visit to my neighbor was great. She was scared to reach out but said it made her feel much easier. Thank you

Hector; can you tell me more about how we can engage with you better and gather information for our newsletter? We have decided every other newsletter we want to highlight the work being done with the neighborhood Associations and I believe this will help grow more partnerships.

The other thing is the defensible grant was nice information. We have a lady on our street that used some of this to get rid of a lot of Debris and it was nice to see she did not have a ton of out-of-pocket expenses. This was the first time we saw real partnership. It was nice to be part of this and see how well it was received

**Francisco Salvador From Chemeketa Community College:** Talked about the Chemeketa Community College Education Bond Measure 24-513. On May 20th voters will have the opportunity to vote. The bond is marked for college bond dollars available for building permanent work training ground to get the main building. It will cost about 20 cents per. thousand dollars. Email me **franciscosalvador@chemektacollege.org.** And for signs for the measure.

**These questions were asked about the bond measure**

Marlene asked: What will this pay for?

This bond failed in November. If Chemeketa’s measure passes, an average homeowner in Salem would continue paying about $61 per year for the college’s bonds. Is this different from what was covered on the previous measure?

I have a question I read online with the Salem reporter: Would it be paid for by loans repaid through property taxes, but wouldn’t raise tax rates because it replaces older bonds that are expiring.

How is this really going to work? We have families working 2 and 3 jobs just to make it now. Is this going to create more hardship?

Tammy, if this bond goes through how can we ensure our taxes are not going up? Property taxes I think covered that last bond, right? So, my taxes went up almost 500.00 this year on my house. I work 2 jobs and my wife works 1 job and still we are barely making it. How can we support this when we are struggling?

Tammy, and guest

City councilors on Monday indicated they’ll seek voter approval for a property tax levy, raising taxes to avoid deep cuts to the city’s library, parks maintenance, Center 50+ and more. Councilors are scheduled to formally vote to put the measure on the ballot at their Feb. 24 meeting. So why can we not seek funding through Salem if they are already adding to what I can bring home, I live in Keizer and work in Salem and the taxes they take are nuts? How can I ask my family to go without even more?

These goals include: upgrading career and technical education (CTE) facilities; enhancing technology infrastructure; improving campus safety; modernizing buildings and campus facilities; expanding educational opportunities; and expanding educational programs: how is this not getting this bond going to change things for my daughter who is planning on attending this college next year? How is the impact going to look on our budgets for real cost? This bond did fail, but we did not see or hear much from this and Tammy shared what she could but we did not feel like it was something we could get behind tell me why I should vote yes.

I do want to say thank you for reaching out and coming to our meeting, my family has been talking about this bond.

Can you please share what is going to be covered with this bond and how much per month we will be spending to support this bond? I have read so many different items I am not sure what is fact and what is false. My son is going there in 2 years, anyway. But I want to be sure we have the right information. When Tammy shared this was going to be added I was concerned we would not have time to really dig in, and see what the money is going to be sued for. Yes, the paper covers it but is left leaning and always leaves out details that matter for my family. I need to ensure we are not saying yes to this if we are not going to see the real changes.

In saying that I want my son to have the best and taking on a part time job to help cover this can happen, but I need to be sure. I am a single mother and spend 14 hours a day working now, which is hard, and we struggle to say yes for my support means I need another job. I could only do that 2- or 3-days a week but I would be willing to do that for my sons’ education.

 Tammy Book Study Result

1. Books club; Advocacy in Action: 9 Practical Actions for Allies in Social Justice by Raymond White

Results of feedback;

What are you looking to gain from this study; Tammy here what I found and how I think about this topic.

 The goal of Social Advocacy is to promote inclusion, encourage and initiate social change. It aims at empowering people to exercise their rights and enhance their well-being.” This is what is shown on line for this.

Here is what I want us to cover during this topic. I want to learn how to be inclusive and have the mindset for showing this in how I talk and interact in our meetings as well as while I am at work.  The other side of this is work is working on talking DEI out of our office but we never really used this mindset before so I want to be sure I am doing us justice as I learn this side of our engagement.

You and Jacqueline and now we have Jane who I have not met but heard and seen with the city council and heard from your meetings with CDEC. Express their views, thoughts, and concerns. Have access to information and guidance in a way they can understand. This is something I think I can get better at and learning to see things from the of advocating like you and Jacqueline have been doing for months.

How do I know if I am using the mindset right?

Effective measurement encompasses not just diversity but also inclusion, equity, and belonging. Surveys, whether conducted annually, quarterly, or even post-employment, are crucial tools for collecting employee feedback. We use these methods at work, but I feel like this is not the best way for us to engage with the community.

How are we going to do things differently plus ensure we are advocating like you and Jacqueline have done for me with the city council. For example, I still am under a protection order since my ex is now out of jail. So, I have to work behind the scenes to help. I can never be seen on TV or in the paper.

I need to learn how to use my voice but protect my family and for this I am not sure how this works. Are we going to learn this in the book study?

I use teams for our meetings to ensure our safety, plus my caseworker says it is a better way to protect ourselves. My next question is how do I handle difficult topics with people who believe differently try to cause problems for me because of the way I believe?

Are we going to explore benefits of diversity in community engagement and learn how to do some of the following?

1. Diversity can help groups to analyze the facts more clearly.
2. Diversity creates clarity on the real problems.
3. Diverse representation pulls us all forward.

Tammy, how can we promote cultural diversity in our community? How can we do this without offending others, or being called left wingers?

One thing you and Jacqueline have done is model this mindset by seeing the need and taking this on, one of my concerns is City Council is looking to take diversity out of government and how it works, being led by fear. How are we going to lead by example for this in our group? Are we going to lose funding because we refuse to change how we do things in the community?

I am concerned using our Facebook opens us up to trouble but also excited we have so many who want to engage on this topic. How can we see what changes we have in our community?

So, it’s important to think about how we can capture feedback from as many different community members as possible if we want to make thoughtful, people-led decisions. Can we use one of our charts to track this for example we have form we created back in 2023

Select the Level of Participation • Inform • Consult • Involve • Collaborate • Empower plus we added more ion 2024

We worked in our work session to create this chart to use as a guide; PEACE. It’s an acronym:

P – Purpose E – Empathy A – Awareness C – Connection E – Empowerment

Pilot program; Incentive program;

This program is being designed to add support for our school and staff in getting children and parents to school on time and to help cut loss of education for our families. Miranda has asked for support in this aspect, she is the Principle of Kennedy Elementary and has reached out to the Neighborhood Association, and Parent club. So, we put our heads together and are designing a pilot program to seek funding in the 2025/2026 school year to implement this program.

Parent club is willing to help this take off by using funds to gather prizes and material needed. This will vary month by month depending on the need

**Jane With the City of Keizer’s Community Diversity Engagement Committee,** how can we add more support? I am glad to hear you fight for keeping the name that matters. Thank you, it also made me happy to have you fight for the youth votes. They reach a community us older folks cannot.  This makes a difference and allows them a voice to be heard. My son has thought about joining one of the groups, but he was afraid to get involved with all the tension on Council.

How can we provide support to Keizer and keep Keizer growing in the right direction and not let it lose its diversity of thought?

Can you share what your long-term goal is for this committee?  Tammy has been working hard and created charts for us to use, we find this helpful to track some of the progress. We love Tammy is mindful and engagement comes from whatever she is doing and now we have Jacqueline doing the same. I do this at work and just ask questions to see where people stand and how I can be better as well.

Tammy has had us share with 3 people during the week and now I share with about 15 to 20 During my week. So, this matters and I have people I work with listen to your committee meetings online now we have 6 who do this monthly. It is one way that has opened us up to be better neighbors. What is the one you have asked us to try?

**Council Report**

**Marlene**. We had a fundraiser for The Ryan J. Hill Memorial. at the Rec. We raised about $56 hundred dollars in about 2 hours

We might get a grant on April 22nd

 April 26th 11AM Ground Breaking

Grand Opening in September.

Budget Meeting is coming up at City Hall

Neighborhood Association Greater N.E Keizer is on the agenda for Monday at City Council.

Big Toy at Keizer Rapids Park is 10 years old. We need volunteers for painting, and for repairs, power wash, mildew. Grand opening is that day. June, we need a 3 days’ notice for volunteers it will take 2-3 weeks. The Keizer Fire Station will use the ladder truck to get to the top. The Big Toy will be ½ Red/ ½ Blue

**Jane from CDEC**. Talked about the pilot program on incentive to get Children in school. Miranda Principle, Parent Club. Miranda concerns.

 Reading Book Club, At the school or at Keizer Public Library.

Jane The Rec We Should Advocate to The Rec for free bowling

Parent Club funding part of it to Partner with different workshops Partner with Kennedy neighborhood Family Council Education Family Group Reading

Jane, we have 1 opening and 1 youth member opening on CDEC talk to McNary, or Councilor Christopher to reach out

We need long-term and short-term goals and an action plan.

Meeting Adjourned. At 7:30 P.M