

SOUTH EAST KEIZER ANNUAL REPORT

3/31/2020

Madam Mayor, City Council, City Manager and Department Heads:

First my apology for not appearing in person but doctors orders. Seems I'm old. Who knew?

SEKNA has had our ups and downs. We had several months without a quorum and had a limiting effect on our business. We have tried to use Facebook to build an information pipeline to our community, et al. We have received positive feedback. Around Christmas time, the Keizer Food Bank was down 40% on their donations. From that came a partnership with West Keizer Neighborhood Association to put a food barrel in support of the food bank in Keizer Bi-Mart. From that success came the idea that both Associations would continue that effort by each of us having the barrels out full time. That effort is ongoing.

On the community outreach, we continue to introduce ourselves whenever the opportunity knocks. We have a flyer that is near completion. That will help us when the virus releases us.

SEKNA supports all things Weddle. We have had efforts to support both teachers and students at Weddle Elementary School. We will continue to support them and invite others to share with us. We struggle with some problem properties as others throughout Keizer do. We no longer the months but are counting in years. We do not have a viable answer for some of these and I know Code Enforcement has their frustrations. SEKNA recently asked for assistance with a parking issue on Clearview Avenue. Over 20 cars and trucks were parking and blocking the bike lane. This forced bicyclist and walkers to brave a lane of traffic. This happened after hours for our Code Enforcement. KPD stepped in and it seem to be fixed. Thanks KPD!

SEKNA took a very serious vote last year to uninvite the Keizerfest from SE Keizer. They have proven to be a poor neighbor and that continues to today. We have repeatedly have asked to be kept informed of plans, schedule events, etc. I attended a meeting in January. I have not bee aware of any other meeting. So here we are up against the Fest, if it can be held, with no idea of what is planned. Nor when and where the exception what has been published. SEKNA cannot justly represent the many good working folk that are impacted by this event. There should be a plan submitted 60 days in advance that would allow publication and allow citizens and neighborhood associations to comment. Without this, it appears to be an open check. Public is removed from the process. This is completely anti-Keizer and my hope is it will be fixed to public comments. Lastly is the issue of who may attend events in the tent. Last year I went to the Friday night opener. I still relied on a 4 wheeled walker. I was unable to get across the rough grass. I could not make it into without a lot of help from a strong friend. It was difficult and painful. Since that date I have heard from 3 other individuals who had the same issue. The Keizerfest is for everyone. ADA requirement compliance should compel in the permit process so all may attend regardless of physical ability.

Respectfully submitted

Ken Gierloff
SEKNA President