



MINUTES
KEIZER TRAFFIC SAFETY/BIKEWAYS/PEDESTRIAN COMMITTEE
Thursday, October 19, 2023
Keizer City Council Chambers

- 1. CALL TO ORDER** Vice Chair Tammy Saldivar called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. Attendance was noted as follows:
- | | |
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| Present:
Jamie Davis, Chair (6:07)
Tammy Saldivar, Vice Chair
Michael DeBlasi
Rick Kuehn
Brenda Lamb
David Dempster
Hersch Sangster
Councilor Laura Reid | Council Liaison/Staff Present:
Mike Griffin, Storm Ops & Streets
Trevor Wenning, Police Liaison
Shannon Johnson, City Attorney
Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director
Shane Witham, Planning Director
Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder |
|---|--|
- Absent:**
Councilor Robert Husseman
- 2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES** Hersch Sangster moved for approval of the September 2023 Minutes. David Dempster seconded. Motion passed as follows: Dempster, Sangster, DeBlasi, Saldivar, Lamb, and Kuehn in favor with Davis absent.
- a. September 2023**
- 3. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS** *Rhonda Rich*, Neighborhood Association, they attended the Community Diversity Engagement Committee meeting and submitted their comments on the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program. With regards to the process, an average resident would not necessarily feel comfortable petitioning door to door. They suggests leaning on the residents and Neighborhood Associations to come forward with traffic complaints for the City to take action.
- Michael DeBlasi suggested using a website for traffic calming concerns to be submitted, so the City could do outreach to that neighborhood.
- Councilor Reid asked where the 75% of fronting properties need to be petitioned. Chair Davis said that they haven't been able to find where this is stated. Councilor Reid interprets this requirement as negotiable.

Ken Gierloff, Keizer, spoke about buckling sidewalks on Dearborn where there's about 35 properties affected by tree roots. He asked to get different trees and anything to help mitigate the damage due to the tree roots. He said the trees are required, and homeowners are not allowed to remove the trees.

Mike Griffin addressed this issue and has already spoken with the homeowner. Bill Lawyer spoke about a tree versus the sidewalk compliance when the roots damage the sidewalk. Upon receiving permission from the homeowner, the City can cut a few roots. If homeowner refuses, City would remove the tree, and the homeowner would be responsible to replace the tree. Mr. Lawyer said that the trees on Dearborn can have some roots trimmed and that would resolve the problem. Chair Davis requested pictures and an email for Bill Lawyer to followup.

Michael DeBlasi asked about installing root barriers. Bill Lawyer noted that street experts have reviewed this, and the trees on Dearborn are less prone to this issue.

Jacqueline Green, Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association, shared that the sidewalks along Verda Lane don't have any ADA sidewalks. Chair Davis stated that the construction on Verda Lane needs to be completed before a request for review can be submitted.

Tammy Kunz, Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association, wants a sidewalk on Dearborn around 13th, across from the park. Mike Griffin said this was previously discussed, and a sidewalk at location gives them a sense of safety. Bill Lawyer stated that State law every intersection, there is a legal crosswalk, which are marked or unmarked. Uncontrolled intersections where drivers need to yield presents a safety issue with pedestrians if there is white paint on the road. Discussion ensued on safety and education protocols.

Matt Myer, Keizer Resident, asked for speed humps on Verda Lane. He said that knocking on people's door is not always well received, so he is still collecting signatures and would like to see a reduction in the required percentage of signatures.

**4. GUESTS ~
PUBLIC WORKS
DIRECTOR BILL
LAWYER &
PLANNING
DIRECTOR
SHANE WITHAM**

City Attorney Shannon Johnson spoke on the applicant and decision-maker roles. The Neighborhood Association Traffic Management Plan can follow a Quasi-Judicial format by the Committee Members by acting as substitute judges, even though it's mostly used for land use decisions. As such, the Committee can make a recommendation. Chair Davis requested to see the document and wants to see the Committee's process in writing.

Mr. Johnson pointed to their purpose in the Resolution that they do have a role to make a recommendation to Council. The Committee can make a

recommendation to the City Council with a larger or smaller role or only a role with the priorities and can recommend changes to the standards. As far as recommending changes to the Development Code, Comprehensive Plan or the Public Works Standards, this Committee could make policy recommendations on traffic safety issues. However, with a specific Quasi-Judicial land use case, State law lays out the land use process for applicants and the decision maker. The decision maker can't be two bodies, meaning there's no room for their role in specific land use cases. The Committee Members can only testify as an individual person and not represent the Committee. Neighborhood Associations can testify because they're not a City Committee.

Chair Davis would like to meet with Shane Witham and Bill Lawyer to learn how she can better help the committee. Mr. Johnson clarified that the Committee can make policy and procedure recommendations. They can't make recommendations for specific land use developments.

Shane Witham welcomed that the Members share their code concerns with him so that he can revisit the specific code language for the Planning Commission to consider.

Tammy Salvidar asked for the State statutes that Committee Members could use for research. Shane Witham uses the Keizer Development Code for standards. For land use matters, there are some Supreme Court Decisions stating that conditions and improvements must be proportional to what their development is impacting. Discussion ensued with Shane Witham and Bill Lawyer answering questions and giving examples of past developments. Mr. Johnson confirmed that requirements are mostly the City's Code and not dictated by State Law. He emphasized that reallocating City funds for specific requests can be recommended to the City Council to direct the Public Works Departments. Text amendments could be made upon the Committee recommending changes to the Planning Commission and receiving their approval.

5. NEW/ OLD BUSINESS

a. PROJECT SPREADSHEET REVIEW

Tammy Saldivar suggested pinning this to next month. The Committee Members should recommend how to prioritize each project.

b. UPDATE TO NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT PROGRAM - TAMMY

Councilor Reid provided an overview of the Community Diversity Engagement Committee. There were lots of issues heard on the 75% signature requirement. They would like communications in multiple languages, especially English and Spanish.

Michael DeBlasi wants an online suggestion box.

SALDIVAR

She listed the "Equity Lens" values that the CDE Committee is using, which is as follows:

1. All neighborhoods should receive equitable treatment.
2. Look at modes of transportation to ensure that they are equitable.
3. Approval process should have an equitable percentage of respondents for businesses, homeowners and tenants within each of the neighborhood locations.
4. Approval process access to the process.
5. Resource allocation and budget based upon the neighborhood populations.

Tammy Saldivar added that the document went through more review. Discussion ensued as to how owners and tenants are counted for signature requirements. Tammy Saldivar would look at other Cities' plans to get some ideas to consider for Keizer. She will look at the compilation and email the Committee with a list of suggested changes that should be discussed by the Committee.

- c. Salem-Keizer Area Transportation Study (SKATS) Report - Rick Kuehn & Hersch Sangster**
- Hersch Sangster reported that the safe routes for schools is part of the SKATS so Forest Ridge, Bush, and Salem Height's Elementary Schools have jump-started walking school busses with teaching children to walk safely. The Committee agreed to revisit this at the next meeting when Mayor Clark would be attending to help guide this Committee as to how they can help.

- 6. COMMITTEE MEMBER INPUT / NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION REPORTS**
- David Dempster attended the Fire Department Open House and fitted 25 students with helmets and collected donations. He would like to order another 50 to 60 more helmets.

Hersch Sangster moved for approval to purchase about 50 to 60 more helmets. Chair Jamie Davis seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows: Davis, Dempster, Sangster, DeBlasi, Saldivar, Lamb, Kuehn in favor.

Hersch Sangster requested adding the subject of asking the Fire Department to change their policy on sidewalks that have driveways and make Budget request(s) on the next Agenda.

Hersch Sangster participated in a bike scale event and requested that the next one be done with the police's involvement. Police Liaison Trevor Wenning agreed and requested to know details in advance.

Michael DeBlasi reported on the grant guide that he had sent out to the Members and requested that the Committee have few grants picked out annually. He would like to see someone from this Committee join in on the

Climate-Friendly, Walkable scenario remodeling so this Committee can provide input. He reported that a transportation engineering company mentioned that drivers shouldn't have to wait at intersections, and he wants to make sure we have an equitable transportation system that's designed around non-car users.

Brenda Lamb suggested night walking education where there are no sidewalks. She asked to hand-out lights, reflective slap bands or reflective tape for folks and their dogs.

Rick Kuehn stated that the standard for traffic light delay at intersections is excessive.

Chair Jamie Davis announced that she's stepping down from Chair and invited interested persons to apply for one of the three positions opening up or those who would like to be the Chair.

- a. **Gubser – DeBlasi**
NWKNA –
Sangster/Saldiva
SEKNA – Davis
WKNA
GNEKNA

- 7. **STAFF REPORT -** Bill Lawyer reported on Claggett Street in which the City conducted a street study, which looked at speed and volume. 85% of the study revealed 26 miles per hour eastbound and 27 miles per hour westbound, so there is clearly no speeding issue or action needed.
Mike Griffin

Mike Griffin reported that they're undergoing the annual storm water pipe inspections and maintenance.

- 8. **POLICE LIAISON** Police Liaison Trevor Wenning reported that the new Chief is finishing his third week, and he's passionate about the community. They promoted Timothy Hein for Luitenant Copeland's prior position.
REPORT

- 9. **COUNCIL** Councilor Laura Reid thanked the Committee Members for all of their great work.
LIAISON REPORT
- Robert
Husseman

10. OTHER BUSINESS

- a. **Reporting to**
Council/
Monitoring
Planning
Commission:

Tammy Saldivar

- **Council:
November 6**
- **Planning
Commission
: November
8**

11. ADJOURNMENT Adjourned 8:24 p.m.

Minutes Approved: _____

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