

WKNA General Meeting

April 11, 2024 7 p.m.

At Keizer Civic Center

Submitted by Carolyn Homan, WKNA Secretary

About 30 people attending, including candidates – Joint meet/greet session for Keizer City Council and Mayor candidates with Southeast Keizer, Greater Gubser, Northwest Keizer and Greater Northeast Keizer neighborhood associations

Call to Order: Rhonda called the meeting order at 7 p.m. Introductions were made, including Council candidates Shaney Starr, Kyle Juran and Fransico Saldivar and Mayor Cathy Clark. Council candidate Marlene Parsons and mayoral hopeful Lore Christopher unable to attend.

Each Neighborhood President made a short presentation on their association. Then candidates were asked to share their reasons for running, their vision for the city.

Mayor Clark was elected to Council in 2006 and served two terms as a Councilor. She was elected Mayor in 2014 and has served five terms as mayor. She has always had a focus on transportation and has also worked to move programs and projects important to Keizer into being sustained with continuity for funding and staffing. For example, she spoke of a past Events and Festivals Task Force that sought a site for Keizer Fest and the time has now come where this is feasible. She has helped lead through large updates such as the city charter (1993 to 2020), neighborhood association ordinance (from 1999 to 2024), city ordinance codification (never done since incorporation), human resources information system (never done since incorporation). There are more updates to finish in this generational transfer of staff and leadership to Gen X and beyond.

Francisco Saldivar is director of the Apprenticeships program at Chemeketa and has served on Keizer's Planning Commission and Budget Committee. He is from Chicago originally and is a U.S. Air Force veteran. He has a degree from University of Montana and was on the faculty at Montana State University. He is a believer in volunteerism and has a varied background in trades and business, running a trade-related business since 2004 in addition to his other work. He said he's found a comfortable home in Keizer, calling it a great place to raise his family.

Shaney Starr was appointed to Council in December 2021. She works with the National CASA organization after serving as executive director of the local CASA group. She's interested in a safe and supportive community for the residents and their children and looks to pursue excellence by thinking outside the box to meet the challenges the city faces.

Kyle Juran is seeking his second Council term. He's a Keizer native and owns Remodel by Classic Homes. He wants Keizer to grow. He said his biggest goal is to provide opportunity for more owner-occupied housing within the city, rather than an overabundance of more apartments. A secondary main goal is to keep the momentum Council has built in the last four years.

After a brief Q and A session, the forum adjourned at 8:30 p.m.