



SIERRA PARK NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 116
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OCTOBER 2010

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2010-2011

Directors

President	Gloria Harvey
Vice President	Friedhelm Peter
Secretary	Linda Clark
Treasurer	Shaun Velayas
Buildings	Dick Barrett
Equipment	Friedhelm Peter
Gate	Charles Varvayanis
Recreation	Linda Clark
Roads	Paul Emery
Health & Safety	Nelson Fialho
Timber	Charles Varvayanis
Water	Ron Hawke

NOTES FROM THE BOARD

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

The Oktoberfest party was a great success. We had almost 100 people there. Our thanks go first to Director Linda Clark for having the idea and planning the event. To Joe and Gladys Freitas for providing music on the keyboard and accordion. After completing his chores as head cook, Director Friedhelm Peter and Doris Williams picked up their accordions and joined the Freitases in playing traditional Oktoberfest music

Many thanks to: Director Peter, his wife Yvonne, his sister Erna, nephew Ralph and lovely fiancée Jennifer and Anita Higgins, all of whom prepared the food, served it and cleaned the dishes and the Lodge. Special thanks to Anita Higgins who brought all the decorations from Germany and for sharing traditional German chocolates; to Debbie Higgins for helping serve and to Jeff Peterson for sharing his very tasty home brew. Thanks to all the Rebekahs who decorated the Lodge and collected the money.

We look forward to another great party next year. Meanwhile, if you missed the Oktoberfest, don't miss the annual **Holiday Dinner** to be held on **Saturday, December 11, 2010** beginning at **5:00 P.M.**

Inspectors from the state were in the Park on October 19 to inspect the water system Due to the diligent efforts of Mark Higgins, Directors Peter and Hawke and Water Operations licensee Don Nessler, the inspection went very well. Good job !!!

The Park has an opportunity and will work with Cover and Sons to reclaim part of the meadow, which was washed out with the great run-off in January 1997. The area behind Well House #6 beyond the "DANGER" sign near the lake will be filled in with stumps hauled in by Cover. They will be placed to rebuild the original bank of the creek and then backfilled. The dirt, which was removed from the lake, will then be used as fill to cover the stumps. This same method was used to reclaim a portion of the meadow about 15 years ago. The Department of Fish and Game supports this type of meadow reclamation. There will be no cost to the Park. The Park helps Cover dispose of the stumps and the Park benefits by reclaiming the meadow.

Mark Higgins has been busy. Among other tasks, he has insulated water boxes, graded the road to the water tanks off David and Isaac, worked on tank and well houses preparing for the inspection, checked water levels daily, worked on valves at water tanks, weed eaten around water tanks, winterized water pipes in the Park, repaired a water leak on Deborah, packed trash, cleaned up at dumpster, repaired flat on generator and set up the Lodge for the Oktoberfest.

The Board continues to work to meet the needs of the Park. We are open to suggestions. So, please, send us your comments via e-mail or regular mail.

If you have issues for the Board to consider, please submit them in writing to the Board at least two weeks before the Board meeting so that research can be completed and the item placed on the agenda for the next meeting. There were comments attributed to Larry Vaughn in the minutes of the 9/25 meeting that were not made by him. This was not corrected at the October 16 meeting as Mr. Vaughn did not attend. ~Gloria Harvey, President

NEXT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING: SATURDAY NOVEMBER 20, 2010 - 8:30 AM

REBEKAH'S CORNER

Dogwood Rebekah Lodge #200 meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month in the Lodge Boardroom. Anyone interested is welcome to attend.

COMING EVENTS

DECEMBER 11, 2010

**ANNUAL HOLIDAY DINNER
RESERVATIONS PLEASE
BY 11/22/2010**

**TURKEY, DRESSING, MASHED
POTATOES, GRAVEY WILL BE
PROVIDED BY THE BOARD**

**PLEASE BRING EITHER A SIDE
DISH OR DESSERT TO SHARE**

**WOOD CUTTING AT THE
OLD CAMPGROUND CONTINUES
UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE**

**THE LARGE OAK
ON THE SOUTH SIDE
OF THE CORP YARD IS
AVAILABLE
FOR CUTTING
BEGINNING SATURDAY
NOVEMBER 6, 2010**



SIERRA PARK NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2

WATER REPORT

Director Hawke reported that there was one water leak this month that was promptly repaired. Significant progress has been made on several maintenance tasks our water system has needed. Paul Krawchuk has assembled an Operations Manual and has been on site and assisted with the preparations for the inspection by the State Department of Public Health on October 21st.

Follow up of items found by the diver inspection by Inland is in progress. Specifically, investigation of how to stop corrosion of the Isaac tank support and the Wheeler bolts is being investigated. Cathodic systems are quite expensive. Coating of the bolts and repair of the Isaac support structure is under investigation. Water usage for the month of September was 1,124,300 gallons.

Once again, a reminder - it is very important to ensure we have your current contact information, especially current phone number! Thanks to all those who have given us your updates. If you have not yet updated your information, please do so ASAP via e-mail or regular mail. Thank you

EXERCISE CLASSES & YOGA

The exercise classes are going well. Everyone is welcome. Every Monday, Wednesday and Friday at 8:30 for about half an hour to forty-five minutes. Some go for a walk afterward to enhance the experience. Also, on Saturday mornings at 9:00 Claire Velayas is leading an hour of yoga exercise. Please come join in the fun any day.

KNOW YOUR GATE CODE

It has come to the attention of the Board that some folks don't know the three digit access code to input at the gate that causes their phone to ring at their park residence so that the person answering can hit*9 on their phone to cause the gate to open. Please remind all at your residence of your access code as this will alleviate some confusion about entering.

OAK TREE AT CORP YARD

The oak tree at the Corp Yard is available for cutting by Park residents for use within the Park beginning on Saturday, November 6th. This is a very large tree and care should be exercised while cutting.

PHI CARES - AIR AMBULANCE SERVICE

There is a membership program available through the Mi-Wuk/Sugar Pine Fire District that could save you a lot of money if you ever find the need to be air evacuated from up here. The company is PHI Cares. There are three plans available. The cost ranges from \$40.00 to \$100.00 per year. Please contact the Mi-Wuk/Sugar Pine Fire Station for more information

RECYCLING

There have been several questions regarding recycling here in the Park. If anyone has suggestions and would like to volunteer to head up a committee to research this, the Board would appreciate this. Please contact the Board if you would be interested in helping with this.

SUGGESTIONS, COMMENTS, ETC.

Your Board welcomes your suggestions, comments, etc. So, please do let us know what you think

RECEIVING THE NEWSLETTER

If you would prefer to receive the newsletter via e-mail, please contact the Board via phone or e-mail.

Happy Halloween 

**ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR
MONTHLY MEETING
October 16, 2010**

INTERIM MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:40 AM by President Harvey. Board members present: Clark, Emery, Harvey, Hawke, Peter, Varvayanis, and Velayas. Board members excused: Barrett, Fialho.

INVOCATION: Given by Ron Hawke

HOMEOWNERS AND OTHERS PRESENT: Homeowner, Steve Wallace; Caretaker, Mark Higgins

COMMENTS: Steve Wallace stated that Jerry Cover had contacted him regarding bringing in some stumps to use as backfill at the lake to help preserve the meadow as they had done sometime in the past. President Harvey will investigate. Mr. Wallace also read a letter from Fred Coleman who listed some of his questions as to how the Board is conducting business: 1) Were written bids from a number of mechanics received before selecting Sierra Village Chevron to work on the snow plow; 2) Are itemized bills being approved by the Board showing the costs of labor and materials and 3) Does the Park have a copy of liability insurance on file from Sierra Village Chevron in case there are problems with the work. Mr. Wallace then stated that all vendors should be required to show proof of liability insurance.

CORRESPONDENCE: Harvey reported receiving correspondence from: Carrie McKernan re: relocation; Mary Wallace re: benches looking great and the dog park being dusty and needing water; Cathy Canales re: are bids required for projects over a specific amount, speed bump replacement and other concerns; Vicki Stewart (Pasa) re: reducing assessments for lot owners. Response was received from Sierra Nevada Communications to our letter of inquiry as to their progress. Also Comcast responded to our letter of inquiry regarding them providing service to the Park.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS of September 25: Varvayanis noted that the results of the closed session of the September 11 Special Board meeting were not in those minutes. He moved that the results be stated in the minutes of the September 25 meeting and that the minutes of the September 25 meeting be approved as corrected. Those results were that the Board determined to make funds available in the form of cashier's checks to have on hand for the auction sale of the Camp Cedarbrook property on September 21st. Hawke seconded, motion carried.

On October 2, the Board approved the following resolution by email:

Resolve: The Odd Fellows Sierra Homeowners Association, Board of Directors directs the treasurer to open a checking account at Oak Valley Bank, 14580 Mono Way, Sonora, California 95370. Two signatures will be required for each check. The Board of Directors authorizes the treasurer and the president to sign all checks.

Dated October 2, 2010 - signed Linda Clark, Secretary Hawke moved the resolution be formally approved at this meeting, Varvayanis seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

WATER-HAWKE: One water leak this month. Significant progress has been made on several maintenance tasks. An Operations Manual has been assembled by Paul Krawchuk. Don Nessel has been on site assisting with preparations for an inspection by the State Department of Public Health, scheduled for October 21. Follow up of items found by the diver inspection by Inland is in progress. Investigation of how to stop corrosion of the Isaac tank support and the Wheeler tank bolts is being investigated. Water usage for September was 1,124,300 gallons. Director Hawke requests again that everyone please update their contact information, especially their current phone numbers.

ROADS-EMERY: Snow stakes are nearly all in place. He has spoken with Director Peter about having Mark drive through the park to shore up any soft shoulders by placing base rock and feathering out to avoid breaking off the shoulders. George Reed has completed the crack sealing project adequately. Suggests other vendors be contacted for future road work.

BUILDINGS-BARRETT: No Report

EQUIPMENT-PETER: Snow plow work is nearly finished and should be ready by next week. Peter will contact Clay Peterson for being a back up this year for snow plowing as needed. Hawke noted that Mark has done a great job using the grader to improve some of the dirt roadways. Discussion continued regarding the brakes and chains for the grader and Mark's further familiarization with the equipment.

TIMBER-VARVAYANIS: Ace Tree Company has provided his proof of liability insurance. The tree on Esther has not yet been removed.

HEALTH AND SAFETY-FIALHO: President Harvey stated she has contacted Caldwell Insurance Company as to wording for the Dog Park signage as to liability issues. She is waiting for a response. She also reported that the replacement Evacuation Signs will be ordered at the same time the Dog Park signs are ordered as the cost will be less per sign when they are ordered together.

RECREATION-CLARK: The Oktoberfest is anticipated to be a huge success. People have been very responsive in calling in their reservations. Attendance is anticipated to be about 100.

EVACUATION/DEFENSIBLE SPACE GRANT-HARVEY: The RAC grant needs final approval by Tuolumne County Board of Supervisors and will be administered through the Fire Safe Council. She will be working with them to get the contracts let for the removal of brush and ladder fuels along the evacuation routes. There are three property owners that need to be contacted to get their approval for the removal of the brush and fuels.

GATE-VARVAYANIS: Computer for gate is still being researched. Suggested that regular maintenance of gate be scheduled. All individuals should know their three digit code.

FINANCE-VELAYAS: Total bills \$8,296.82. Moved by Hawke seconded by Emery to pay the bills. Motion carried. Requested approval to transfer \$250,000 to Wells Fargo Bank interest bearing, fully insured Money Market account and open another interest bearing, fully insured Money Market account at another bank so that interest can be earned. Currently, we have \$526,000 at Oak Valley Bank in a non-interest bearing, fully insured account. Clark moved that Velayas be given the authority to open accounts to best utilize interest bearing accounts available. Hawke seconded. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. Audit vs. Financial Review-After discussion it was determined that further investigation and possible other firms contacted is needed before making a decision. Tabled for discussion at next regular Board meeting.

2. Bids for old mower-Due to lateness of the Newsletter going out, the deadline for receiving bids has been moved to October 31st.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Disposition of the oak tree that fell near the Corp Yard. Too big to move. After discussion, Hawke moved that the oak tree by the Corp Yard should be made available for cutting by Park residents for use within the Park beginning Saturday, October 30. Peter seconded. Motion carried. *******NOTE: Due to lateness of Newsletter going out this date has been moved to Saturday, November 6, 2010 to allow for fairness to all*******

2. Cover and Stumps – President Harvey will contact Ed Smith for information as to previous stump backfill project and report back to Board..

3. Correspondence from delinquent property owners. After discussion, Hawke moved that the Board reserves the right not to respond to correspondence from homeowners who are delinquent with their assessments. Velayas seconded. Motion carried.

4. Discussion was held regarding possible storage of RV's on Park property. Determined this is not a good idea at this time.

ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 9:52 AM

EXECUTIVE SESSION CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:53 AM

ADJOURNED EXECUTIVE SESSION 10:17 AM

OPEN REGULAR SESSION 10:17 AM

PRESSIDENT HARVEY ANNOUNCED that in the Executive Session, it was determined that we will seek input from Roger Brown in regard to property infringements and other legal issues. It was also agreed that the OFSRA will pay the direct fees and supplies associated with Mark Higgins attending classes to pursue his Water License and that he can use the Park pickup for travel to and from classes and exams.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:19 AM

NEXT MEETING NOVEMBER 20, 2010.

Linda Clark, Secretary

9:17 AM
 10/19/10
 Accrual Basis

ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

CHECK REGISTER

As of October 19, 2010

Type	Date	Num	Name	Split	Amount	Balance
						10,804.00
Check	10/01/2010	1557	Secretary of State	786 · Taxes and Licenses	-20.00	10,784.00
Liability Chk	10/04/2010	1558	EDD	payroll tax	-64.33	10,719.67
Liability Chk	10/04/2010	1559	Oak Valley Bank	payroll tax	-647.53	10,072.14
Paycheck	10/08/2010	1560	Higgins, Jr., Mark K.	payroll	-980.47	9,091.67
Check	10/19/2010	1561	AquaLab	794 · Water Testing & Fees	-410.00	8,681.67
Check	10/19/2010	1562	AT&T	telephone	-122.16	8,559.51
Check	10/19/2010	1563	Carlson, Haff & Associates	756 · Accounting Services	-1,027.00	7,532.51
Check	10/19/2010	1564	Linda Clark	766 · Office Supplies	-39.14	7,493.37
Check	10/19/2010	1565	El Dorado Septic Service, Inc.	740 · Health & Safety	-45.00	7,448.37
Check	10/19/2010	1566	George Reed, Inc.	774 · Maintain Roads	-94.11	7,354.26
Check	10/19/2010	1567	Krawchuk, Paul	794 · Water Testing & Fees	-285.00	7,069.26
Check	10/19/2010	1568	Nessl, Don	775 · Maintain Water Systems	-140.00	6,929.26
Check	10/19/2010	1569	PG&E	utilities	-1,008.87	5,920.39
Check	10/19/2010	1570	Pine Alley Saw Shop	773 · Maintain Equipment	-290.63	5,629.76
Check	10/19/2010	1571	Roger A. Brown	755 · Professional Services	-1,840.00	3,789.76
Check	10/19/2010	1572	Sierra Instant Printing	758 · Member Communications	-238.16	3,551.60
Check	10/19/2010	1573	Twain Harte Lumber & Hdwe	780 · General Park Mtce.	-84.33	3,467.27
Check	10/19/2010	1574	Preferred Employers Ins. Co.	744 · Insurance	-830.00	2,637.27
Check	10/19/2010	1575	Waste Mgmt of Cal Sierra Corp.	736 · Garbage	-967.76	1,669.51
Check	10/19/2010	1576	J. S. West	792 · Utilities	-287.51	1,382.00
Check	10/19/2010	1090	Odd Fellows Sierra Rec. Assn.	133 · Oak Valley Comm. Bank M.M.	9,000.00	10,382.00
					<u>-422.00</u>	<u>10,382.00</u>
					<u>-422.00</u>	<u>10,382.00</u>

