



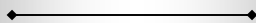
SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION

ODD FELLOWS —LONG BARN, CALIFORNIA, USA

DECEMBER 2008

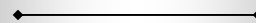
2008-2009

- President ➤ Jesse Worsham
- Vice Pres. ➤ Jeanne Knapp
- Secretary ➤ Andrea Miller
- Treasurer ➤ Paul Emery
- Gate ➤ Charles Varvayanis
- Safety ➤ Mike Rainwater
- Recreation ➤ Sue Collie
- Water ➤ Charles Varvayanis
- Timber ➤ Charles Varvayanis
- Timber ➤ Jesse Worsham
- Roads ➤ Jesse Worsham
- Equipment ➤ Alan Orth
- Buildings ➤ Mike Ford
- Member ➤ Mike Rainwater



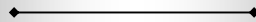
◀ Rebekah's Corner ▶

Nothing to report at this time—we'll keep you posted!



◀ Coming Events ▶

➤ Nothing to report at this time—we'll keep you posted!



The Compiled Financial Statement for the Association for the just ended fiscal year may be reviewed on the Park's web site, www.varvayanis.com/sp.



The 2007 Water System Consumer Confidence Report is now available on the website at www.varvayanis.com/sp/water.htm. If you do not have access to the web and would like a copy mailed to you, please contact us.



Park Information

- Phone: (209) 586-3098
- Email: sierrapark@sierrapark.org
- Website: www.varvayanis.com/sp

Notes From The Board

CHRISTMAS DINNER RECAP



* The annual Christmas dinner of 2008 is now only a sweet memory; the snow, the great Christmas lights inside and out, the great dinner, the smiles and laughs, the arrival of Santa and Mrs. Clause, the raffle, the auction, and the gifts from Santa for crazy awards. (Awards like: the street with the most guests, oldest man and women there, person living in the Park the longest and shortest... and more! If you missed the dinner you will have to ask someone about who won and how all the winners got to sit with Santa for a picture. Pictures can be found on the Park website – www.varvayanis.com/sp. There was the story by Maynard, the rowdies in the back, Pat trying to get name tags on everyone, children getting to bid like the adults and lots of hugs and merry wishes to each other. I cannot even count all the people that came and helped throughout the day and during the dinner. It was like "family" and isn't that what Christmas is all about? Thank you one and all for your part in making memories for me and for each other. I feel honored to have been the coordinator for this year's event.

Merry Christmas and God bless, *Sue Collie*

Details of the Dinner:

- 56 were in attendance
- \$188 was donated to the fishing derby by the raffle!
- \$256 was donated to the fishing derby by the auction!
- \$444 in total was raised for the 2009 fishing derby!

WINTER RULES

It was reported that children were sledding on the roads during the snowfall the weekend of December 13-14. This is, of course, extremely dangerous both for the children and for those of us driving through the Park. These children were not regular residents, but rather visiting with renters.



Please brush up on your winter rules and be sure to advise any guests or renters who are using your home that there is no parking on the roadways during the snow season, and the roads are not for recreation such as skiing, sledding, etc.

*** For those of you who would like to receive your Newsletters more promptly and directly, and to save the money we are now spending on reproduction and postage, please provide an e-mail address to the Sierra Park email address listed to the left. Remember, every Newsletter that we have to mail costs the Association \$.42 in postage and between \$22 and \$36 in reproduction costs, depending on how many pages the newsletter is. With over 250 lot owners who do not receive it by e-mail we spend between \$125 and \$140 each month to be sure you are kept informed—that's over \$1,600 per year!. Your help in reducing this cost would be greatly appreciated.

BOARD MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 13, 2008

Odd Fellows Sierra Homeowners' Association ~ Board of Director's Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 8:26 a.m. by President Jesse Worsham. The invocation was delivered by Alan Orth. All members were present. Motion by Mrs. Miller and seconded by Mrs. Collie to approve the minutes from the November Board Meeting. Passed unanimously.

Guest: Will Dorrell

Correspondence: None.

Committee Reports:

Water — Charles Varvayanis: Water consumption for last month was 459,800 gallons, which is atypically low for the second consecutive month. We are looking for a decently priced water meter. Mrs. Collie reported that a homeowner exposed water pipes while trenching for diversion. Exposure of water lines threatens serious damage. If a homeowner proposes digging, permission should be sought from Mike Caropresso so he can determine where the Park easements and lines lie. If lines are exposed they should be covered immediately to avoid damage to Park water lines.

Roads — Jesse Worsham: Work performed at Jonathon and Joseph caused draining issues. New drains have been dug and culverts installed. Drainages boxes will be installed in the Spring. Grates will be installed on all culverts as well.

Orange reflective fiberglass snow stakes will be here next week to denote road verges and other obstacles.

Mr. Wallace also provided an overview of the Board's 5 year plan for roads. He received the thanks of the entire board for overseeing this project and bringing it to fruition. Job well done, Mr. Wallace!

Buildings — Mike Ford: The dishwasher has been installed in the caretaker's cabin. Dry rot damage in the upstairs bathroom was repaired. Flooring will have to be removed and repaired and a shower door installed to prevent future damage. Mr. Emery supervised the project. The buildings budget can remain the same next year and the additional projects that have been scheduled can be completed with no increase in 2009.

Timber — Charles Varvayanis: We need to get proof of insurance from Ace Tree Service.

Will Dorrell, our forester, made a presentation to the Board at the invitation of Mr. Varvayanis. He discussed the following issues about which questions had been posed to him.

Williamson Act. He will review the status regarding our meadow which had originally been designated agricultural under the Act. At some point a request was made to convert the status to recreation but we cannot tell if that request was acted upon. In order to achieve the latter status the County wanted a survey and division of the area. The Forest Service would like it classified as open space. We need to elect. Mr. Dorrell opined that it should not be designated open space because there is no vegetation management allowed under that category and given our coyote problem failure to control vegetation would be a problem. That status would also prevent any work on the Lake. He will research the problem and report back to us with a recommendation for either agricultural or recreational.

Removal of the Willows. The best method is to cut the stump and inject a herbicide after which the stump and roots can be chipped. Willows are a problem because they provide coyote habitat and ultimately they will spread beyond their present location and do damage to the meadow.

Coyote Problem. A vegetation management plan is recommended by Ron Anderson, as the Fish and Game trapper. The focus is on the willows. During a review of the area by Fish and Game and a County official this was emphasized. Mr. Dorrell will look at the issue for us to see if there are other steps we can use. A vegetation plan can be part of Park records for future Boards to plan their actions. Such a plan will be prepared before the next Board meeting. Various issues were discussed for inclusion in the plan including levee preservation, safety issues, and others.

Timber Harvest Clean-up. The general standard after harvesting is that no slash pile should exceed 30" above ground for purpose of fire suppression and bug control. We have tried to keep our slash at 18". One year we had the slash masticated but the cost was very high -- \$12,000. Choices have to be made regarding the degree of clearing we are able and willing to do. Regarding concerns about the logs on landings, it would be necessary to truck them out to Camino if we wanted them removed. The cost is prohibitive. The better solution is to allow the residents to use them for fire wood.

BOARD MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 13, 2008

Harvesting. Each Board establishes its own goals. There is a non-industrial management plan in effect that sets out limits and permissible harvest areas. Mr. Dorrell provides an annual harvest plan drawn from the management plan and the Board then determines how much to undertake. The recent goal has been to try to grow the trees bigger before harvesting for greater profit. Sale prices have been low in recent times. Our plan has created a healthy forest well beyond the average.

Fuel Reduction Within the Park. The Board asked for an update on status with emphasis on from the corporate area up to Rebeah and along the creek. There are no regulatory standards for these kinds of issues because the area does not impinge upon a building site. Mr. Dorrell does not see these compartments as a fire threat because the area is limited and the material is not very dense. There is a grant held by the Highway 108 Council that pays for them to come through and chip any material stacked on the road verge. Rick Jerome is the best person to contact. He can be reached at 928-3300. Mrs. Miller moved that Mr. Varvayanis contact Mr. Jerome to determine the conditions under which we could take advantage of this program. Mr. Ford seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Grants. The most likely one for our purposes is the California Improvement Grant which splits costs 75-25 between the State and the property owner. If we could acquire this grant it could be used for brush control. A second one has been discussed with the California Department of Forestry. It could be used to complete the fuel break from where the Forest Service stopped theirs and then to clear a swath around the homes all the way through mastication. Mr. Dorrell will present this to the local Fire officials to see if they will subsidize the 25% normally paid by the homeowner under the grant so we should pursue this one first before we consider others.

Recreation — Sue Collie: Decorating for the Christmas Dinner has been completed. Schedules for preparation, serving and clean-up were established. A discussion was held regarding the present \$100 fee that is charged for use of the Lodge. Ms. Collie would like to reduce the cost. The central issue is really insurance. Mr. Emery will inquire as to whether our insurer will provide a user rider at a reasonable cost which may allow reduction in rental price. Ms. Collie proposed that the notice period of 60 days can also be reduced if the insurance issue can be resolved.

We have the two new slides for the play area which will be stored until Spring when they can be installed.

Health & Safety — Mike Rainwater: The Lake has been drained. We need to assure that the garage area is well cleaned after pick-up to avoid attracting animals scavenging. The hydrant box has been completed and it must be kept clear. Mr. Emery will call Caltrans about the Wheeler Road signs that are missing.

Equipment — Al Orth. We are still working on locating a sander for the truck. Mr. Orth has two sources and has determined the cost is likely to be about \$400. We have not been able to see the grader that is available yet but should accomplish that within the next week.

Finance — Paul Emery. In response to a question that had been raised prior to the Board meeting, Mr. Emery stated that no CD has been cashed out. Income was \$343.11. Expenses were \$6,784.68. There was a discussion about permitting advertising in the newsletter as a means to generate revenue. The focus would be on service providers to homeowners, limited to line items, and specifically not endorsed by the Board. Mr. Emery moved to allow advertisement by publication of business cards at a cost of \$10 per month. Seconded by Mr. Rainwater. After additional discussion the matter was tabled until the next meeting so members can develop additional proposals and positions.

Gate — Charles Varvayanis: Expenses average \$2,292 per year for maintenance. The cost of phone service to the gate averages \$315. We should establish a reserve fund into which any annually remaining funds can be deposited to cover excess costs.

We have lost the gate seven (7) times due to lightening strikes. We do have a surge protector on a portion of the system and will acquire the remainder for full protection at a cost of between \$1,200 and \$1,500.

Board members were referred to the gate page on the web site which shows costs and also has a segment regarding operation and maintenance which will be available to the next Board member who becomes responsible for the gate. We should develop a similar page for each Board function.

The front view camera has been installed on the Gate and the recorder is working. Motion by Rainwater that the rear view camera, which will record license plates to enable us to identify persons removing wood, etc., from the Park, should be installed by Mr. Varvayanis by the end of February and if he is unable to complete the task that we hire a vendor to do the installation. Seconded by Ford. Passed unanimously.

Old Business: Christmas bonus for caretaker. Motion by Ms. Knapp that we give the caretaker a \$300 bonus. Seconded by Worsham. Unanimous vote in favor.

BOARD MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 13, 2008

Mr. Rainwater reported that nine (9) annual assessments were delinquent. These assessments were due September 1, so they are each more than four (4) months overdue. Motion by Ms. Knapp that Mr. Emery send a registered letter notifying the delinquent homeowners that their water will be turned off 30 days after receipt of the notice. Seconded by Mr. Worsham. Unanimous vote in favor. Liens will also be filed.

The committee appointed to acquire a corporate attorney received a services proposal from the Modesto firm of Hedge, Foster and Jones. The other two firms contacted have not yet responded to our request for a proposal but indicated they would do so after the first of the year.

New Business: Discussion regarding what should be done with the dishwasher originally acquired for the caretaker's cabin but that did not fit. Alternatives were to return it to the vendor for store credit or install it in the Lodge. The consensus was that it should be installed in the Lodge.

Meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m. **Next meeting will be Saturday, January 17, 2009, at 8:30 a.m.**

Minutes humbly submitted, *Andi Miller*, Secretary ~ December 13, 2008.

CHECKS DISBURSED FROM 11/28—12/16/08

Type	Date	Num	Name	Memo	Split	Amount	Balance
					Opening Balance		9,026.10
Paycheck	11/28/2008	903	Caropreso, Michael W.		Payroll	-815.33	8,210.77
Paycheck	11/28/2008	904	Cloak, Robert B.		Payroll	-91.55	8,119.22
Liability Check	11/28/2008	905	State- Farm Bank		185 · Payroll Deductions IRA	-50.00	8,069.22
Check	12/03/2008	906	Tuolumne Tax Collector		785- · Taxes - Property	-1,208.10	6,861.12
Liability Check	12/04/2008	907	EDD	074-1658-9	Payroll	-75.32	6,785.80
Liability Check	12/04/2008	908	Oak Valley Bank	94-1181950	Payroll	-864.70	5,921.10
Deposit	12/05/2008			Deposit	773 · Maintain Equipment	1,035.56	6,956.66
Check	12/05/2008	909	J & H Mobile Truck Repair, Inc.	2008-3219	773 · Maintain Equipment	-1,035.56	5,921.10
Paycheck	12/12/2008	910	Caropreso, Michael W.		Payroll	-1,058.62	4,862.48
Liability Check	12/12/2008	911	State- Farm Bank		185 · Payroll Deductions IRA	-50.00	4,812.48
Deposit	12/12/2008			Deposit	-SPLIT-	400.00	5,212.48
Check	12/16/2008	912	A & A Portables Inc.	418595	740 · Health & Safety	-71.68	5,140.80
Check	12/16/2008	913	AT&T		Telephone / Gate Expense	-81.87	5,058.93
Check	12/16/2008	914	Ace Tree Service	565	787 · Timber Expense	-600.00	4,458.93
Check	12/16/2008	915	Carney, Rich		772 · Maintain Buildings	-900.00	3,558.93
Check	12/16/2008	916	Caropreso, Mike		745 · Employee Health Ins. Reimb	-53.99	3,504.94
Check	12/16/2008	917	Mike Caropreso - Petty Cash		770 · Recreation	-109.55	3,395.39
Check	12/16/2008	918	Collie, Sue		770 · Recreation	-311.86	3,083.53
Check	12/16/2008	919	Paul Emery		772 · Maintain Buildings	-536.24	2,547.29
Check	12/16/2008	920	Eric A. Carlson Accounting Corp.	13138	756 · Accounting Services	-982.59	1,564.70
Check	12/16/2008	921	J. S. West	260951	792 · Utilities	-276.94	1,287.76
Check	12/16/2008	922	Miller, Andrea M.		758 · Member Communications	-284.34	1,003.42
Check	12/16/2008	923	PG&E		792 · Utilities	-373.25	630.17
Check	12/16/2008	924	Twain Harte Lumber & Hardware	63098	770 · Recreation	-18.40	611.77
Check	12/16/2008	925	Valley Entry Systems	11140	737 · Gate Expense	-1,372.80	-761.03
Check	12/16/2008	926	Charles P. Varvayanis		Gate / Office / Maintenance - Bldg	-249.96	-1,010.99
Check	12/16/2008	927	Wallace, Steve		772 · Maintain Buildings	-37.70	-1,048.69
Check	12/16/2008	928	Waste Management of Cal Sierra Corp.		736 · Garbage	-523.51	-1,572.20
Check	12/16/2008	929	Ford, Mike		Maintenance - Bldg / Bonus Reimb	-459.99	-2,032.19
Paycheck	12/16/2008	930	Caropreso, Michael W.		Bonus check	0.00	-2,032.19
Check	12/16/2008	1058	Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Assn.		133 · Oak Valley Community Bank M.M.	12,000.00	9,967.81
					TOTAL	941.71	9,967.81