

Sierra Park Recreation Association

April 1997 - Annual Meeting Notice

Farewell to Al Dean

Our park's oldest resident, Al Dean, passed away Monday evening, April 14th. Al was 94 years old, and up until last year was still cutting wood and leading an active life. His wife, Faye, died last year as the result of injuries sustained in an automobile accident. Al contributed a great deal of labor and know-how to the park. Their memorial service will be held May 3, 1997, at 11:00 a.m. in the recreation center. Instead of flowers, the family requests a donation to the park to buy trees to be planted in their memory.

Change of Leadership

At the April 13th board of Directors' meeting, in executive session, following our regular meeting, I announced my resignation. After 10 years as a board member, my heart condition dictates the need for less stress. The present board is the finest it has been my privilege to serve on. I have enjoyed my tenure and hope the park continues to improve.

At the same executive session, the board appointed Del Wallis to fill the vacancy, electing him president for the remainder of the term until the general meeting, when he will run for the board. My very best wishes and good luck Del.

Thank you -- Ed Smith

Park History

Anyone having information on park history or old photos, please send them or copies to Clare Smith c/o Odd Fellows Park, P.O. Box 116, Long Barn, CA 95335. She is trying to compile the history of the area.

Theft in Park

This month, the board of directors received a letter from a homeowner on Deborah Drive. It was her concern that the other homeowners in the park be aware that on the weekend of February 21 through 24, a friend was staying in her cabin and, while packing their car to leave at about 9:00 p.m., two suitcases were stolen out of the back of their car. They had just returned to the cabin to continue the process of packing their car and were only away from the car for about five minutes. She felt that they had a false sense of security because this was a gated community. She would like everyone to be aware of this incident and the fact that the gate cannot prevent all theft. This could have been someone who walked into the park or anyone who has access to the park. A gate cannot guarantee a prevention of all crime. Please take precautions at all times by keeping your cars and vehicles locked. It made us very sad to hear of this incident because we love our park and would like to think of it as a safe and relaxing place to be.

Fire Hazard

Although we had plenty of rain early in the winter, we have had almost no rain since January this year. Because of this, the forest is very dry and we look forward to a particularly dangerous and early fire season. We would like to encourage everybody to clean their lots of pine needles and debris from recent wind storms early this year. The burn area is open at this time. There are two separate burn piles. If one is burning when you go to dump your needles, please dump them in the other pile.

Sierra Park Lodge #376

Odd Fellows meetings are held the second and fourth Saturday of each month at 7:00 p.m. in the recreation hall.

**Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association Board of Directors Meeting
April 13, 1997**

Minutes

The Board of Directors' meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by President Edward Smith. All members were present. It was MSC to approve minutes of the March 9, 1997, meeting.

Members Before the Board

Gordon Green presented 28 signatures requesting amendment of the by-laws. An insert will be included in the monthly newsletter for information. This will be voted on during the annual meeting.

Park Manager's Report

Projects completed

Rails on foot bridge/posts and cables painted.
 Cleaned up brush on Jordan Way.
 Cleaned up limb branches in lake area and Jordan Way East.
 Cleaned gate area.
 Burn area work two to three times a week.
 Repaired leak on lower drain in lake.
 Spread 50 tons of sand on beach to buoy posts.
 Limbed up trees, took out dead wood, hauled to the burn area.
 Cleaned out main shop.
 Cleaned pavement for inspection for repairs on Sarah Circle.
 Took out five dead trees.
 Creek area cleared.
 Cleaned up five acres.
 In park and play ground:
 Cleaned flower beads at flag pole, repaired horse shoe pits - sand, railroad ties, posts and rails, cleaned up pine needles, and watered new grass planted by the U.S. Forest Service.
 Equipment:
 Bush Hog mower - Equipment #4, serviced gear box, sharpened blades, and service record set up.
 Front loader International - Equipment #7, lubed, oil change, filter, fire extinguisher installed and service record set up.
 Case back hoe - Washed, air filter cleaned, and warranty work checking on problem with four-wheel-drive.
 International flat bed (68) - Built side racks.
 I would also like to thank all volunteers who helped with some of the above projects:
 Daryl Clark, Ben Hunter, Larry Vaughn, & Cliff Opland - Brush work.
 Matt Schaefer, Jim Shoemaker - Trees.
 Tracy Bowman - Leak at Lake.
 Thanks also goes out to Gene Reed for donation of lumber.
 Mr. Overracker also requested that the broken window at Gene Everett's place be handled ASAP as it is a danger to children.

--- Submitted by Randy Tolbert, Park Manager

Correspondence

EDD concerning claim.
 U.S. EPA region 9, ground water offices.
 State Compensation Insurance Fund, requiring posting notice.
 Nadine Sparling regarding theft.

Committee Reports

Water - Bowman: 315,000 gallons used. Watering new grass as there has been no rain. Cost of \$8,800.00 to drill new well.
Roads - Morrison: Park to install new culvert near Overracker's lot to stop erosion.
Buildings - Hawke: Blinds were installed in the recreation hall. Concerned about pit at east end of hall where water sits. Need to fix drainage here. Gene Reed has volunteered to build a pump house for the new well.
Timber - Hague: Some trees to be removed starting May 1, by Jerry Cover, in payment for creek work already completed.
Recreation - Snell: Spaghetti Dinner May 24, at 6:00 p.m. Need volunteers for fish derby Saturday, June 14. Proposed sun shade and beach volley ball area.
Health and Safety - Coleman: Budget for gate to be included this year. Two portable toilets to be installed, once at the lake and one in the picnic area.
Finance - Bonner: MSC to pay bills in the amount of \$15,794.03.

Old Business

Approved purchase of pipe vice from Oliver Armstrong for \$50.00.

New Business

April 18, resignation of Ed Smith. Del Wallis appointed to fill position until General Meeting, when he will stand for reelection.

As of April 1, the Board of Directors hired Randy Tolbert as Park Manager. His salary is \$1600.00 per month plus \$250.00 for medical insurance. Randy lives in his own home in the Park with his wife Becky. He brings with him an extensive knowledge of the water and road systems in the park. Previously, he was caretaker at the Boy Scout Camp for several years while working for Pepsi-Cola.

Also hired April 1, was Mike Caropresso as Assistant Park Manager. His salary is \$695.00 per month. Mike and his wife JoJo will be living in the caretaker's cabin and have done some major repair work to the house at no cost to the park except for materials. Mike is a diesel mechanic, machinist, and heavy equipment operator and maintenance man.

Checks Disbursed April 1997

<u>Date</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Payee</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>
3/13	8241	Pacific Bell	Telephone	145.45
3/18	8242	Quality Blinds	Blinds for Recreation Hall	250.00
3/24	8244	Tuolumne County Tax Board	Property Taxes	1475.79
3/24	8245	Randall J. Tolbert	Payroll	810.40
3/24	8246	Matthew T. Schaefer	Payroll	503.80
3/24	8247	Cathy Bowman	Member communication	71.86
3/25	8248	Edward Smith	Hood for Stove	64.00
4/02	8250	Michael W. Caropresso	Payroll	265.54
4/02	8251	Michael W. Caropresso	Payroll	265.54
4/02	8252	Randall J. Tolbert	Payroll	536.75
4/02	8253	Randall J. Tolbert	Payroll	665.79
4/02	8254	Randall J. Tolbert	Payroll	664.79
4/02	8255	Matthew T. Schaefer	Payroll	360.57
4/02	8256	Hales & Symons	Maintenance/buildings	559.23
4/02	8257	Sugar Pine Hardware	Maintenance/buildings	360.57
4/14	8258	Randall J. Tolbert	Reimbursement	390.46
4/14	8259	Office of Water Pr	Water License	51.45
4/14	8260	Zaks	Repair, Truck	150.76
4/14	8261	J.S. West	Utilities, Propane	54.66
4/14	8262	Ambrosia's Chimney Sweep	Maintenance, Caretaker's Cabin	66.00
4/14	8263	W.H. Breshears, Inc.	Fuel	612.12
4/14	8264	AT&T	Telephone	23.87
4/14	8265	Pacific Bell	Telephone	69.93
4/14	8266	George Reed, Inc.	Beach sand	423.94
4/14	8267	Lawrence Haun	Professional Lawyer's Fees	90.00
4/14	8268	Duane St. Claire Trucking	Hauling sand, two trips	279.00
4/14	8269	Doherty Tire of Sonora	Back hoe flat	86.25
4/14	8270	Viking Office Products	Office Products	109.10
4/14	8271	AquaLab	Water Testing	75.00
4/14	8272	Cal Sierra Disposal	Garbage	764.20
4/14	8273	Sonora Truck Equipment	Install dump on sand truck	2893.61
4/14	8274	DMV	1989 GMC	170.00
4/14	8275	Flavin and Associates	Bookkeeping	339.99
4/14	8276	PG&E	Utilities	487.04
4/14	8277	Oliver Armstrong	Pipe vice	50.00
4/14	8278	Richard Bonner	Mileage/supplies	44.50
4/14	8279	Ron Hawke	Mileage/supplies	68.64
4/14	8280	Gregory D. Brown	Mileage	67.50
4/14	8281	Robert Snell	Mileage	37.50
4/14	8282	Edward Smith	Mileage/telephone	46.00
4/14	8283	Fred Coleman	Mileage	56.50
4/14	8284	Jasper Morrison	Mileage	45.00
4/14	8285	Deena Hague	Mileage	37.50
4/14	8286	Employment Development Dept	1st quarter state payroll taxes	282.03
4/14	8287	US Bank	Deposit, 1st quarter federal payroll taxes	802.18
4/14	8288	Michael Caropresso	Payroll, shortage	41.20
4/14	8289	Randall J. Tolbert	Health insurance reimbursement	250.00
		Total 3/11/97 - 4/14/97		\$ 15,794.03

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association
P.O. Box 116
Long Barn, CA 95335

NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING

FIRST CLASS MAIL

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association
P.O. Box 116, Long Barn, CA 95335, Phone and FAX (209) 586-3098

Dear Park Member,

This is the **OFFICIAL NOTICE** regarding the **Annual meeting** to be held at the place, date and time stated below:

Place: Odd Fellows Sierra Park Recreation Hall.
Date: Sunday May 25, 1997
Time: 9:00 a.m. (Sign in to begin at 8:00).

The agenda will be as follows:

1. Call the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.
2. Pledge of allegiance to the flag.
3. Invocation.
4. Conduct Homeowner's meeting and Recreation meeting concurrently.
5. Reading of minutes of last annual meeting.
6. Communications.
7. Committee reports.
8. Old Business.
9. New Business.
 - a. Maintenance budget and assessment for 1997-1998.
 - b. Election of Board of Directors: Three 3-year terms and one 2-year term.
 - c. Reserve funding for capital items.
 - d. Vote on four changes to the by-laws proposed by Gordon Greene, to be voted on separately.
 - e. Other new business.

Please bring your current paid Lodge dues receipt. You cannot vote without it.

Your vote is important in selecting our leaders for the coming year and in determining our assessment for the next year. Enclosed with this letter is the proposed budget for the 1997-1998 fiscal year with the 1996-1997 figures for comparison.

If you are unable to attend, please send a proxy with a friend or mail it to the Board of Directors at the address above along with a copy of your current paid lodge dues receipt.

Sincerely, Board of Directors
Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association, Inc. Budget Proposal

Operating Expenses	1996-97 Budget	Proposed for 1997-98 Income
Accounting	6,106	6,100
Audit		3,000
Auto Mileage Exp.	4,000	4,000
Fuel	3,000	3,500
Garbage	14,000	10,000
Health and Safety		1,500
Insurance General	18,000	20,000
Maintenance/Buildings	4,000	4,500
Maintenance/Equipment	5,000	5,000
Maintenance/Roads	20,000	20,000
Maintenance/Water	6,000	6,000
Member communications	2,000	2,500
Payroll/labor	24,000	30,000
Professional Services	2,000	5,000
Recreation		1,500
Supplies/Recreation Hall	600	600
Supplies/Shop	500	500
Taxes-payroll	5,000	5,000
Taxes-property	3,000	3,000
Telephone	700	1,000
Utilities	10,500	10,500
Water Testing	<u>3,000</u>	<u>4,500</u>
Total Operating Expenses	\$131,406.00	\$143,600.00 \$147,700.00
		Assessment per lot \$407.00
		Gate Assessment per lot \$20.00
		Total Assessment per lot \$427.00

1997 ANNUAL MEETING PROXY STATEMENT

1996 Annual Meeting Minutes

_____ Approve the reading of the minutes _____ Disapprove the reading of the minutes

Vote to elect four (4) Directors:

_____ Candidate P. TRACY BOWMAN _____ Candidate _____
_____ Candidate DEENA HAGUE _____ Candidate _____
_____ Candidate RON HAWKE _____ Candidate _____
_____ Candidate DELWYN WALLIS _____ Candidate _____

Proposed 1997-1998 annual budget and assessment

_____ Approve the proposed 1997-1998 budget and assessment
_____ Disapprove the proposed 1997-1998 budget and assessment

Proposed changes to the by-laws:

Item #1
_____ Yes _____ No

Item #2
_____ Yes _____ No

Item #3
_____ Yes _____ No

Item #4
_____ Yes _____ No

All other matters that may come before the annual meeting for a vote:

_____ Yes _____ No

If no instructions are marked above, the person authorized below will vote as he or she sees fit:

I authorize _____ to vote as directed.

Please send a copy of your current paid-up dues receipt of your Odd Fellows or Rebekah Lodge

Member's signature

Date

Four Reasons to Change
ARTICLE III. FIRST SECTION
of Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association Bylaws

(1) Compensation:

For the past several years the past Caretaker had reviewed each spring pay increases from three to seven percent. In 1995 the Caretaker received a five per cent increase plus the starting of a pension fund with a \$500.00 contribution by the Park. The agreement in 1996 called for the Park to match any contribution to the fund made by the Caretaker up to \$150.00 per month. The contributions by the Park had been averaging \$85.00 per month. The Park also provided health care coverage. The Caretaker additionally received a 3 bedroom cabin with all utilities. The compensation package in 1996 broke down per month to the following:

Base pay per month:	\$1,700.00
Pension contributions:	\$ 85.00
Cabin per month:	\$ 700.00
Medical plan per month	\$ 241.00
Utilities per month:	<u>\$ 100.00</u>
Total per month:	\$2,826.00

It should also be pointed out that the Park pays all property taxes. Therefore, if the cabin were valued at \$85,000.00 the property taxes and special assessments would approximate another \$800.00 in hidden compensation. It could therefore be argued that the true compensation per month would add another approximately \$66.66 (800/12). The truer compensation per month would therefore be \$2,892.66. On a yearly basis the total benefits and compensation package comes to \$34,711.92.

The present leadership of the Board of Directors in the spring of 1996 and gave the Caretaker a \$300.00 per month raise effective 6/1/96. This amounted to an increase of 17.6% (\$300.00/\$1,700.00). It was reported in the March 96 Board minutes as a \$300.00 per month cost of living and incentive increase. This makes the total compensation and benefits package come to \$3,126.00 per month or \$37,512.00 per year. If the property tax benefit is added in the per year package represents \$38,311.92 to the Caretaker. The Park must also pay a percentage of the net pay to Social Security, Unemployment Insurance and Workers Compensation and this adds another \$6,000.00 of expense to the Park.

(2) Approval :

Without any motion of the Board, starting in May 1996 through December 1996 the Board employed the Caretaker's wife to give out cards and operators for the gate. The total payments amounted to \$6,810.99 net plus \$1,702.75 for Park taxes paid to Social Security, Unemployment Insurance and Workers Compensation. The total cost for this employee was \$8,513.74. Further, in January 1997 the Board without a direct motion gave the past Caretaker \$5,579.01 for unused vacation. Again, the real cost to the Park with taxes paid to Social Security, Unemployment Insurance and Workers Compensation was \$6,973.76.

(3) Outside Work:

When the previous caretaker was hired it was with the absolute understanding, as reported in the Board Minutes, that he would work solely for the Park and at no time work for any other property owner within the Park. The past Caretaker has worked for different Board members and other owners on their personal property within the Park.

(4) Volunteers:

The membership owns the Park and as a whole has a great many skills to offer. Our insurance carrier has stipulated that any member of Odd Fellows Sierra Park Recreation Association is covered under our general and specific liability policies. Therefore the Board should at all times attempt and encourage volunteers.

Excerpt From Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association Bylaws
Article III. Directors

Section 1. Powers. Subject to limitations of the articles of Incorporation and of the California General Corporation Law as to action to be authorized or approved by the Members, and subject to the duties of the Directors as prescribed by the Bylaws, all corporate powers shall be exercised by or under the authority of, and the business and affairs of the corporation shall be controlled by, the Board of Directors; provided, however, that all timbering operations on, and all extraction of other natural resources from, any property owned by the corporation must be approved by the members. Without prejudice to such general powers but subject to the same limitations, it is hereby expressly declared that the Directors shall have the following powers: to wit,

First - To select and remove all Officers, agents, and employees of the corporation; prescribe such powers and duties for them as may not be inconsistent with the law, with the Articles of Incorporation, or the Bylaws; fix their compensation and require from them security for faithful service.

FOUR CHANGES EACH TO BE VOTED ON SEPARATELY

Four Proposals to change the First to read:

First - To select and remove all Officers, agents, and employees of the corporation; prescribe such powers and duties for them as may not be inconsistent with the law, with the Articles of Incorporation, or the Bylaws; fix their compensation, (1) except in the case of employees where the Board shall report in its minutes the level of compensation including benefits and taxes and any salary adjustments above the Consumer Price Index plus 1% shall be put to the membership for it's approval by a majority vote; and require from them security for faithful service.. (2) No person shall be employed by the Park for any period of time without the approval of the Board and the publication in its minutes all hires and rates of pay including benefits and taxes the Park must pay. (3) Further, said full time employees shall not perform any service for enumeration from any other property owner within Odd Fellows Sierra Park without being approved by the Board and published in its minutes. (4) The Board is directed to wherever possible the Board shall use volunteers from the membership.