

Sierra Recreation Association

MAY 2006

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FISHING DERBY JUNE 17, 2006

Can you HELP? Dan Meade has had some offers of help but you can still join in the fun. He has ordered the fish and a delivery date is set. To be fair to everyone and let the fish settle after they are planted, Please observe **NO FISHING!** until derby day. Sign up at Lake begins at 7:30a. & fishing begins at 8:30a. To contribute, Call Dan at 209-524-1243 or e-mail him dkmeade@sbcglobal.net. Thank you!!

Weather: It's warm with green grass & beautiful dogwood blossoms. We just had another 3 inches of rain but it has not stopped the dumping of pine needles. Beautiful Spring! 5/29 -- This weather has been a roller coaster ride. We had a little snow/sleet Saturday but a lot of people were in the Park, working, playing and having a great time. It was cool Sunday but this morning Memorial Day is bright and sunny

Calendar: Next **Board Meeting:** June 24, 2006 8:30a.m.

I.O.O.F. Lodge meetings: 6:00 p.m.

Change of meetings. The members of the Lodge voted to hold ONE MEETING A MONTH. 3RD Wednesday ONLY

Followed by Potluck at 6:30 p.m.

Rebekah Lodge meetings: 1st Weds. meet 12 noon

Wed. 6/21 Meeting 1p.m Luncheon 3p.m.

If you have any questions for Lodge call Doris or Bill Williams 586-5580

COMMUNITY WATCH: Burglary alert. Homeowner Lisa Barse' wants everyone to be informed of the theft of an expensive, large & heavy, hand-carved redwood bear. It was stolen between Apr. 17 and 21st from her deck on Rebecca. Please be aware of people and strange cars around the Park. Talk to people you don't think belong on neighbors property, you may help save the loss of property. The gate certainly helps security, but there are those who follow through an open gate or have worked in the park and have access to a temporary access code. **BE AWARE!**

RULE REMINDERS: Two problems have reoccurred (or just continuing but at a greater rate) **DOGS:** Bringing your pets to a strange home and then leaving them alone seems to be the reason for some very excessive barking. Please consider your neighbors. A dog barking for *hours* at a time is extremely annoying. I have noticed more homeowners obeying the leash law and for that we all thank you. Use baggies for picking up the "poop", that helps keep all areas clean. **SPEED:** When one driver traveling at 40 MPH was asked to obey the speed limit, her response was, "Who do you think you are? Do you own the roads?" The answer is yes, we do. She was speeding around curves where a child or adult would not be seen in time to avoid an accident. A 7 yr. old was killed in the county just a couple of weeks ago because he was skateboarding down his driveway and across the road. The driver was going below the speed limit but could not see the child; a curve in the road restricted visibility. Let's watch for children, adults and wildlife. To live with horrible memories of any accident is not worth the few moments of time that is saved by speeding.

PINE NEEDLE DISPOSAL – This program is going very well. I just found out that small limbs, less than 4 ft. long and 2 inches in diameter, are allowed in the dump. **YOU HAVE AN EXTRA WEEK TO CLEAN PROPERTY AND TAKE IT TO THE DUMP. THE LAST DATE WILL BE JUNE 18TH AT 6 P.M.** THANKS FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION. The vote at the Annual Meeting was for a fee of \$30.00 to cover the service for this year and to plan to continue the program each year as long as we can make arrangements at a reasonable cost.

New officers, board members and elected terms

President: Charles Varvayanis (term 3 years)

VP: Mike VanGundy (2 years to complete term)

Secretary*: Steve Wallace (term 3 years)

Treasurer: Doris Selman (2 years to complete term)

Timber: Mike Ford (term 1 year)

Roads: Steve Wallace

Water: Mike Rainwater (term 3 years)

Equipment: Alan Orth (term 1 year)

Buildings: Clark Kellogg (term 2 years)

Recreation: Dan Meade (term 1 year)

Health & Safety: Charles Varvayanis

Officer's term is for the current year 2006-2007.

*The secretary duties maybe filled by another person for a stipend equal to one assessment. This would also include doing the newsletter. Anyone interested?

Present: President Roger Townsend, Treasurer Doris Selman

Members present: Charles Varvayanis, Clark Kellogg, Ed Smith, and Charles Aston

Excused: Mike VanGundy & Dan Meade

The meeting was called to order by President Roger Townsend at 8:30 a.m.

Members before the board: none. **Consultant:** Will Dorrell, Forester. Will came to the meeting to share plans for getting a grant for thinning and fire protection in our forest that would involve a timber harvest of approximately 250 – 300 MBF. Possible net return of \$40,000. It will allow us to improve the health of the tree farm and the funds would be used for the roads. Motion (Smith/ Kellogg, unan.) to take the matter before the Annual Meeting.

Minutes of the April meeting were approved as mailed. (Motion Smith/Kellogg)

Correspondence: (1) Insurance papers from Caldwell Insurance. (2.) Various mailings from CRWA regarding water. (3) 2 proxies (4) Letter regarding a burglary in the park (5) Donations from Danny Vierra & Harold Pope for the fishing derby. (6) Letter from Atty. Roger Brown. He has received payment from the insurance company for legal services. (7) Commendations to Mike on the appearance of the Park.

Committee Reports:

WATER – Charles—Water usage was 1,200,800 gals. He recommended we look into increasing the reserve fund for the water and make a plan for the future.

ROADS – Charles has been researching the need for road repair. He is waiting for an estimate from Geo. Reed to fill holes with hot asphalt and fog seal all roads to extend their life. Report at Annual Meeting.

BUILDINGS – Clark, no specific problems. A discussion of rates to rent Rec Hall and the cleaning of it was held. No decision on rate increase, but renters responsibility will be to clean to their standards before the rental date and to leave clean and no damage after their activities to have the deposit returned in full.

TIMBER – Townsend- See consultants information above.

HEALTH & SAFETY- Chuck Aston asked about the speed limit signs, some have been put up but the location of others are still being considered. The motion sensor at the gate does not always work. Charles V. will have Mike repair or replace the sensors.

EQUIPMENT – no actions

RECREATION – Roger for Dan Meade: The fishing derby is Sat. June 17th and Dan has the permits and a delivery date for the fish. NO FISHING will be allowed between the fish plant and the derby.

FINANCE – Selman – Motion to pay the bills as reviewed and signed this a.m. (Kellogg/Smith, unan)

Doris reported the information received from Caldwell Insurance was incomplete & premiums incorrect for the report given in the last newsletter. Their costs are also high, so Roger is investigating another Insurance broker in Modesto who charges 5% less in fees. That is a couple of thousand dollars savings on 3 policies.

OLD BUSINESS- (1) Pine needles: Mike has the burn area cleaned and arranged better drainage in the area. Needles are being dumped since opening on April 16th. Most everyone is following the guidelines and that is appreciated. The hours for dumping are 8a.m. to 6p.m. (2). Roger has asked for a copy of the insurance liability coverage on the new playground equipment. The company did not provide us with a copy of it after the installation.

NEW BUSINESS: (1) A contractor has placed a large sign in cement on park property on Wheeler Rd. He is working on the home in back of it. Permanent signs are not allowed. Temporary signs should be on private lots only during construction work. He was asked and agreed to remove it but has not done so in over 2 weeks. Motion to remove sign (Smith/Aston, unan) (2) Clark Kellogg questioned the gate codes used by contractors and vendors. Some of them are sharing these codes with homeowners and outsiders. That removes security for the Park. The loss of property as reported by a homeowner could have been a result of this factor. After a review of the current method of giving gate codes, it was determined they need to be changed annually and contractors codes will be more random. (3) Barking dogs were discussed. Excessive barking (for hours) has occurred. For the most part, these are dogs that are left alone. When the owners are away they are not aware of the problem. The owners will be contacted to make arrangements to avoid the annoyance to their neighbors.

Meeting adjourned at 11:08 a.m. Next meeting is on 5/24/2006 at 8:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Doris Selman, Acting secretary

| Date | Chk. # | Payee | Memo | Amount |
|---------|--------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|
| 4/25/06 | 11708 | EDD | State Tax | \$ 459.67 |
| 4/28/06 | 11709 | Michael Caropreso | Payroll | 938.62 |
| 4/28/06 | 11710 | Robert Cloak | Payroll water consult | 91.55 |
| 4/28/06 | 11711 | Arlen Santos | Payroll | 20.15 |
| 4/28/06 | 11712 | State Farm Bank | Payroll deduction | 50.00 |
| 5/3/06 | 11713 | Franchise Tax Board | Payroll Taxes | 325.00 |
| 5/4/06 | 11714 | EDD | State Tax | 93.74 |
| 5/4/06 | 11715 | U S Bank | Payroll Taxes | 969.60 |
| 5/12/06 | 11716 | Michael Caropreso | Payroll | 938.62 |
| 5/12/06 | 11717 | State Farm Bank | Payroll deduction | 50.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11718 | Doris Selman | Office supplies | 53.75 |
| 5/23/06 | 11719 | U S Postmaster | Member communications | 275.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11720 | Michael Caropreso | Employee Health (spouse) | 181.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11721 | Roger Townsend | Auto Mileage | 100.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11722 | Dept. Motor Vehicles | License Toyota pick up | 178.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11723 | Mike VanGundy | Office supplies | 11.23 |
| 5/23/06 | 11724 | Argonaut Insurance | Workers comp 2yrs. Audit | 3,350.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11725 | Calif. Reforestation | Gen'l Park Mntce/Lake clean up | 1,081.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11726 | J. S. West | Utilities/ Propane | 177.27 |
| 5/23/06 | 11727 | A T & T | Phones | 65.61 |
| 5/23/06 | 11728 | Eric Carlson Acct. | Accounting Service | 640.00 |
| 5/23/06 | 11729 | Duane St. Clair Trucking | Gen'l Park Mntce/deliver sand | 247.50 |
| 5/23/06 | 11730 | PG & E | Utilities/ electricity | 389.63 |
| 5/23/06 | 11731 | A & A Portables | Health & Safety | 76.68 |
| 5/23/06 | 11732 | Waste Management | Garbage | 875.92 |
| 5/23/06 | 11733 | Village Mail & Printing | Member communications | 275.20 |
| 5/23/06 | 11734 | AquaLab | Water Testing | 408.00 |
| 5/26/06 | 11735 | Michael Caropreso | Payroll | 982.15 |
| 5/26/06 | 11736 | Robert Cloak | Payroll water consult | 91.55 |
| 5/26/06 | 11737 | State Farm Bank | Payroll deduction | 50.00 |
| | | | TOTAL | 13,446.44 |

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS: (The minutes will be in the next newsletter)

Water: All okay at this time, but due to maintenance & upgrades needed in the future it was recommended to increase our assessment for the reserves from **\$20.00 To \$45.00** per year. This was passed. Current reserve amount is \$62,386.00. Sunday evening after the meeting we found a problem with the well #6 pump motor and the cost of repair or replacement may be substantial.

Pine Needles: Approved fee of **\$30.00** for removing pine needles from Park. Cost and fees will be considered on a yearly basis. The board hopes that a portion of this fee will go toward next years costs.

Roads: Maintenance of roads is necessary to extend their life. The bid from Geo. Reed is \$32,900.00 for sealing. A timber Harvest to pay for this work was discussed, but after consideration it was voted to take the funds from existing Timber reserve monies.

Timber: Our forester, Will Dorrell is investigating a grant to thin and clean up our forest and as a safety factor to prevent and control fires. The board will pursue this but will not do a harvest.

Recreation: Fish derby is being organized and there will be tagged fish for gift certificates from our current funds. Mike Ford donated an additional \$100.00 and requested one fish be tagged for \$50 and 2 for \$25.00. Thank You was given to Bill Williams for making 160 fishing derby badges again this year.

2006-2007 ASSESSMENTS: The basic assessment will remain at \$505.00 PLUS new water reserve assessment of \$45.00, \$30.00 fee for pine needles and \$20.00 assessment for playground equipment. **TOTAL PER LOT ASSESSMENT \$600.00.**

Other: When the bills are mailed out we will be asking all Odd Fellows and Rebekahs for a copy of their current membership card and their initiation date. Our membership list is out of date for those who belong to lodges other than here in the park. Please help us with this up-date.

*Take time to laugh--It is the music of the soul.
Dance to the music of your dreams,
the steps will bring you joy.
Life is a carnival of fleeting light and dance....
but playing, living and laughing together can make it last.*

**Annual meeting
May 28, 2006
Highlights Inside.**

Watch out for the new rain bird sprinklers in the playground area. They stand above the ground. The plan is to get pop-ups to replace these, but until that is done, please, point them out to the children. We don't want anyone, children or adults, tripping over them and getting injured. This sprinkler system should help keep the grass in the playground looking nice all summer.

Beware cryptids are out - protect your family + pets!

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association
P.O. Box 116
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RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

