

# Sierra Recreation Association

August 2002

## PARK NOTES

**IF ASSESSMENT IS NOT PAID BY SEPT. 30,  
YOUR WATER MAY BE CUT OFF. A \$300.00  
RECONNECT FEE WILL BE CHARGED.**

Caretaker's Phone Number 586-3098

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From The Prez:

After the annual meeting, there were some questions regarding our salary administration practices. There are probably several reasons why the questions arose, not the least of which is it's a major expense category in our budget, and the positive feelings our members have toward the work being done to make our Park beautiful.

Some five years ago we evaluated what needed to be done in the "Park" and how best to attain our goals. Positions were identified, job responsibilities determined and commensurate salaries agreed to. Since that time annual reviews have allowed us to increase salaries with cost of living adjustments in excess of the inflation rate. In those instances where we ceased providing free electricity, gas and housing in order to meet current tax laws, we reviewed prior expenses and increased salaries to not only satisfy what expenses might be expected, we grossed-up the additional salary to accommodate any tax consequence. The Park managers salary is ~~\$2,691.00~~ <sup>\$ 2726.00</sup> per month and assistant manager receives a salary of \$2,380.50. The latter has the opportunity/requirement to rent our three bedroom, two bath cabin for \$575.00 a month.

We initiated annual incentive bonus reviews. The last distribution allowed us to give the two positions \$1,800.00 in bonus money. Providing future performances warrant a bonus and our budget can accommodate it, we plan to continue the program.

By now many of you have heard about the fire we had in the maintenance yard. It destroyed our shed and most of the contents stored. The location where the fire started has been identified, but the origin is undetermined. Fortunately we had been in the process of removing things we couldn't do without/junk that we had been storing and the humidity was particularly high the night of the fire, or the fire could easily have been devastating for the Park. We are insured, and as we look to rebuild, we will keep you informed.

Del Wallis  
President

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Board Meeting 8:30 A.M. Sat. Sept. 14, 2002

### SIERRA PARK LODGE #376

Lodge meetings are held on the 1st. and 3rd. Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m.

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BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING AUGUST 17, 2002

PRESENT

Del Wallis President  
Robert Snell Vice President  
Richard Bonner Treasurer  
Ed Smith  
Neil Selman  
Greg Brown  
Fred Coleman

ABSENT

Deena Hague Secretary excused  
Norrine Coyle excused

Richard Bonner led the invocation.

By motion Smith/Selman the minutes of the July, 2002 minutes were approved as corrected – numerous spelling mistakes/typos by the person responsible for the newsletter. (Carried – unan.)

MEMBERS BEFORE THE BOARD:

Mr. Kasper – Requested information about timber harvest. He wanted proof of delivery to the mill as indicated by mill tickets.

Others – Concerned that no one was notified in the Park about the fire while it was going on. Discussion about the fire. Further discussion about the timber operation and future timber operations.

Mrs. Monahan – Concerned about the lack of communications in Park, noise late at night from a vehicle racing around, why the gate was still open, and the need for an emergency escape plan. She brought out that at Cow Creek they work together concerning emergencies and communicate better than we do.

Question from someone in the group about the location of the PG&E easement.

Mr. Ford – Wants reflective paint in the speed dip so that it shows up at night.

COMMUNICATIONS:

1. Grant Deed from the Friedlanders to Patricia Bremicker
2. Notice that Sentinel Bank is becoming part of Central California Bank
3. Letter from Charles H. Wegner, Adjuster, concerning fire in the Park
4. Letter from Doris Kilgore concerning salary administration in the Park
5. Letter from PG&E inviting us to participate in an emergency test they are running for water and sewage treatment systems

6. A CDF notification of a Conversion Exemption Timber Operations for a homeowner on Ruth for a home building site, a garage, and a parking area
7. Information from the Department of Health Services concerning water systems and Homeland Security
8. Information from the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection which included – the Evacuation Guidelines for Tuolumne County and other information about fire safety
9. Raul Morales notified the Board in writing that he was resigning from the Board – he sold his home and is moving to Colorado.

WATER - Randy: 1.9 million gallons of water used, three new water boxes built, state checking our wells, tank elevations, and leach fields. Coleman gave a report about the plan Condor (engineering firm drawing up the plans for the water system upgrade) is working on. Found out that the plan discussed at the last meeting was not sufficient to bid the proposed job. Condor is now working on the cost of a plan that could be used to bid the work required for a water system upgrade. We plan on presenting the cost of this upgrade to the membership at the next General Meeting.

TIMBER – Coleman: Report on the recently completed timber harvest – A total of 360.86 MBF was removed with 56.85 MBF of the total being hazard trees along PG&E power lines. Will Dorrell, our forester, was present and gave us a check for \$95,000. We still have \$14,000 in our account. Out of that we owe approximately \$4,000 in timber-tax and \$3,600 to the logger. This sum is being held back until the clean up is completed and is satisfactory. Logs on Jordan East will be taken out next month when Randy Gray, the logger, falls one more tree under the PG&E line on Jordan East, does a salvage area above David, and does the salvage area near the large water tank. Note – salvage trees are dead trees that must come out.

Will reported that the fuel break down to Sugar Pine Creek from the 2001 fuel break will begin sometime in the fall. A grant from the state will pay \$10,000 and we will pay \$5,000.

Motion Smith/Selman to have Will acquire the measurement tickets from the mill for each load delivered for this year's logging operation as requested by Mr. Kasper. These will be made available in the Board Room for membership review by the next meeting. The cost to acquire said tickets to be limited to a maximum of \$200.

(Carried unan.)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 10 A.M. TO RE-OPEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION CONCERNING PARK PROBLEM AND SALARY ADMINISTRATION

**MEETING RE-OPENED AT 10:55 A.M. FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**ROADS – Snell:** The bid for the work on the roads this year is \$65,500 and will be done by George Reed. The work to begin after September 9.

Homeowners needing work done should make arrangements with Reed.

**BUILDINGS – Smith:** Investigation of the fire at the Corp Yard completed and there is no known cause. The building was insured for \$20,000 and the contents for \$10,000. The chipper was covered under another policy. A company dealing in pole barns was contacted concerning a replacement building for the one that burned. Ed and Randy are going to meet with a representative of the company to discuss our needs. The bat problem is getting out of hand in the recreation hall. Estimate of \$1800 with a one-year guarantee to bat proof the recreation hall. Motion Coleman/Brown to hire Sierra Bat Exclusion to bat proof the recreation hall. (Carried – unan.)

**RECREATION –Snell:** Nothing at this time.

**HEALTH & SAFETY –** We need an evacuation plan for the Park and a method of warning the people when there is an emergency. Deena to work on this. A couple of property owners on Sarah Circle have raked their needles onto Park property in violation of the rules. Renters on Ruth have household items stored outside – property owner was contacted.

**EQUIPMENT – Brown:** Chipper was damaged in the fire but will be taken in next week for an estimate to repair it. The back-hoe was recently serviced and a tire repaired. While removing a dead tree a chain saw was run over and destroyed. It needs to be replaced. Motion Selman/Smith to purchase a new saw with a cost not to exceed \$500. (Carried – unan.)

**FINANCE – Bonner:** The bills this month total \$16,007.93 - they are higher due to the early meeting last month and some of last month's bills being paid this month. We also need to move the special assessments into the correct accounts. Motion Bonner/Snell to move \$9050 to the water fund and \$7240 to the equipment fund. (Carried – unan.) Motion Smith/Brown to split the \$95,000 check from the timber harvest between the timber fund and the road fund. (Carried – unan.) We paid too much in taxes last year and will receive a Federal refund of over \$6000 and a State refund of \$2300. The estimated taxes this year are zero to the Federal Government and \$26 to the State Government. Motion Coleman/Smith to pay this month's bills. (Carried – unan.)

## OLD BUSINESS

The judge recently released the Soares property and we are now the legal owners – it is finally free and clear.

Our lawyer sent a letter was to the Pelusos making it clear what their restrictions are per the July meeting.

Our lawyer sent a letter to the Boy Scouts concerning their use of our roads. They have until October 1 to comply or their gate codes will be deleted.

We are working on a resolution with the Board of Supervisors concerning vehicle code enforcement inside the park.

## NEW BUSINESS

A letter will be sent out concerning our salary administration practice to clarify a salary issue within the Park. Larry Adams requested permission to build a stairway to the road. He submitted his plans and they were approved prior to the meeting. Motion Coleman/Smith to approve earlier approval. (Carried – unan.) Issue with the residence of Marilyn Dahl concerning a party held by her son and the resulting disturbance and destruction of Park property. This issue was discussed in executive session and the cost of the destruction plus lawyer's cost was \$350. Motion Snell/Bonner limiting those using the Dahl residence to only the roads necessary for ingress and egress to their residence as well as to the road to the garbage dumpster for one year. The owners, guests, relatives, and all using the Dahl residence are restricted from the use of all other areas such as the lake, picnic area, forest, etc. during this time. Mrs. Dahl may request a review after six months. The total cost of the damage and lawyer fee, \$350, to be paid. (Carried – unan.) Mrs. Dahl's son paid the \$350 and apologized to all concerned. Also discussed in executive session was the interest Randy has shown in acquiring training for our water system and the need to reward him for his efforts. Randy recently completed seven hours of training with five more hours scheduled in the near future. This training is needed for his water distribution license. Motion Smith/Selman to raise Randy's salary by \$35 a month (\$5 for each hour of training) and to pay the cost of his books. (Carried – unan.) Motion Coleman/Brown to join the California Rural Water Association if the fee does not exceed \$250. (Carried – unan.) Motion Smith/Selman to accept the resignation of Raul Morales from the Board with an expression of gratitude for his service to the Park. (Carried – unan.) President Wallis then appointed Neil Selman Director of Water. According to the election results at the annual meeting Norrine Coyle is next in line to serve on the Board and will fill out the term of Raul Morales. President Wallis appointed Norrine Director of Recreation. The investigators could not determine the cause of the fire in the Corp Yard. It started in the small recycle shed and then spread to the garbage dumpster and the large building. There was a response from the following fire units and the Board would like to thank

them for an excellent job of putting the fire out and preventing it from spreading to the rest of the Park. The following units worked on the fire:

1. CDF Twain Harte
2. Twain Harte Fire District
3. Mi Wuk-Sugar Pine Fire Stations 54 &57
4. Tuolumne County Fire Station 56 @ Soulsbyville
5. Columbia College Fire Breathing Support
6. CDF Battalion 4416 – Jim Carrol
7. CDF Battalion 4420 – Richard Imlach
8. Tuolumne County Prevention 702 – Debbie Fish
9. And the many others we are unable to name but greatly appreciated.

Meeting closed at 12:15 p.m.

Fred Coleman

Acting Secretary



CHECK DISBURSED AUGUST 2002

<u>DATE</u>	<u>NUMBER</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>AMOUNT</u>
07/15/02	10404	PG&E Utilities	1029.84
07/15/02	10405	Acordia of Calif. Workman's comp.	428.00
07/15/02	10406	AquaLab Water testing	990.00
08/13/02	10407	USBank Taxes-payroll	1275.42
08/13/02	10408	Employement Dev. Taxes-payroll	105.60
08/13/02	10409	Randall J. Tolbert Payroll	987.26
08/13/02	10410	Michael W. Caropresso Payroll	676.97
08/18/02	10411	Randall J. Tolbert Payroll	987.26
08/18/02	10412	Michael W. Caropresso Payroll	676.96
08/18/02	10413	AquaLab Water tests	186.00
08/18/02	10414	Eric A. Carlson Accounting	975.00
08/18/02	10415	Angels Pest Control Maint. buildings	120.00
08/18/02	10416	Secretary of State Permits & fees	20.00
08/18/02	10417	A & A Portables Health & Safety	143.36
08/18/02	10418	PG&E Utilites	1447.61
08/18/02	10419	J.S. West Propane Propane	38.27
08/18/02	10420	Acordia of Calif. Workman's comp.	428.00
08/18/02	10421	Roger A. Brown Prof. Serv.	1306.31
08/18/02	10422	Pacific Bell Phone	59.94
08/18/02	10423	AT&T Phone	23.23
08/18/02	10424	Twain Harte Lumber Shop & equip. supplies	308.79
08/18/02	10425	Sonora Fire Health & safety	132.67
08/18/02	10426	Cal Sierra Disposal Garbage	1571.97
08/18/02	10427	Village Mail & Printing Newsletter & Faxes	124.30
08/18/02	10428	Mike's Mowers Maint. equipment	21.72
08/18/02	10429	Zaks Shop & equip.	133.14
08/18/02	10430	PG&E Utilites	61.88
08/18/02	10431	USBank Payroll deductions	175.00
08/18/02	10432	Richard Bonner Mileage & office supplies	71.30
08/18/02	10433	Franchise Tax Board Taxes	26.00
08/18/02	10434	Gregory Brown Mileage	98.55
08/18/02	10435	Randy Tolbert Mileage	124.10
08/18/02	10436	Robert Snell Mileage	54.75
		Total Monthly Expenses	\$16,007.93

Odd Fellows Sierra Recreation Association  
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