



SIERRA PARK NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 116
Long Barn, CA 95335

SEPTEMBER 2010

Website: www.sierrapark.org

E-mail: sierrapark@sierrapark.org

Telephone: 209-586-3098

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 Board of Directors has been very busy this month. With the auction of the former Boy Scout property announced for September 21, 2010, Board members spent numerous hours researching the viability of purchasing the property at auction, financing such an endeavor, surveying homeowners, researching title information, researching Annual Meeting minutes, consulting with an attorney - to name just a few of the areas which were addressed. The Board of Directors held three Special meetings to share the information they had gathered. The Board then read every survey document and the letters which accompanied some of the surveys.

The Survey of opinions on the purchase of the Camp Cedarbrook property results: 146 homeowners out of approximately 300 responded to the survey. 62 of those were also members of OFSRA. 72% of the OFSHA members voted yes to purchase the property, while 66% of the OFSRA members voted to purchase the property. The resolution which is stated in the minutes set the maximum auction bid at \$300,000.

Four Board members were present at the auction. The minimum bid was set above \$580,000, so no bid was entered. The Board of Directors decision was based upon the information which was **supplied by the homeowners.**

The caretaker has also been busy. He began the month with final weed eating and mowing for the summer, emptying trash cans at the lake weekly, packing the dumpster, cutting brush and trees back from buildings and hauling brush to the pine needle dump, cleaning the picnic grounds for the BBQ, cleaning the campground, cleaning the corp yard and building, cleaning the fire house as well as the barn at the lodge to house equipment, hauling debris to Waste Management and bringing back sand, checking water daily, washing dump truck, tractor and other equipment, blowing off roads, repairing water leaks, moving trees cut by PG&E to the campground, maintaining well houses, working on equipment to name just some of what Mark does. Mark is a willing worker and has learned his new responsibilities quickly.

Don't forget to winterize your cabins. With the first of October upon us, snow is not far behind. So, it is time to prepare your cabins for the cold weather. This **especially includes** turning off the water and draining the pipes.

The Law Suit against the Board of Directors has been settled and is closed. The Park was responsible for paying the insurance deductible of \$5,000.

Please make your reservations for the Oktoberfest by October 11th
Festivities begin at 5 PM at the Lodge Clubhouse

~Gloria Harvey, President

Water usage for August was 1,275,000 gallons

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

OCTOBER 16

OKTOBERFEST

***Beginning @ 5 PM
at the Club House***

**FISHING AT THE LAKE
IS STILL OPEN TO ALL**

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

THE 2009 ANNUAL REPORT IS NOW AVAILABLE

on the website at: www.varvayanis.com/sp/finance.htm If you do not have access to the web and would like a copy mailed to you, please contact the Board.



SIERRA PARK NEWSLETTER

SEPTEMBER 2010

OKTOBERFEST - OCTOBER 16

The *Oktoberfest* committee is hoping to have a super turnout for this fun event. There will be a smorgasbord of German delicacies, including German sausages, sauerkraut, potato pancakes, warm pretzels, applesauce, sour cream and dessert. Due to the extensive menu, it is necessary that **reservations be made by October 11th**. The cost for the dinner will be \$5.00 per person by **reservation**. It will be \$10.00 at the door. Please call in your reservations to either Yvonne Peter 209-586-5950 or Linda Clark 209-586-0257 or by e-mail to the park e-mail address.

In addition to the wonderful food, there will be music provided by Joe and Gladys Freitas on accordion and keyboard. If you have an accordion and would like to participate in the music you are invited to join in. If you can, German attire is encouraged.

The festivities will begin at 5:00 pm at the Lodge-Clubhouse

Wir sehen sie uns aut dern Oktoberfest!

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.

HELP THE CARETAKER AND IMPROVE THE APPEARANCE OF THE PARK

Homeowners sometimes help the Park by raking the ditches near their homes. This help is appreciated because it helps the caretaker and it facilitates the flow of water when the rains start. If homeowners are unable to remove the piles of debris to the pine needle dump, contact the caretaker. He will advise you when he can pick up the piles. This pick up service is for the park debris from ditches and park property only. Homeowners are responsible for the removal of the pine needles and leaves from their private property

OLD MOWER

The Park has received a bid of \$50 for the old mower. The Park will be accepting other bids through October 31, 2010. Please call the Park number 209-586-3098 to submit a bid.

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.



**ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR
MONTHLY MEETING
September 25, 2010**

INTERIM MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:50 by President Harvey. Board members present: Emery, Fialho, Harvey, Hawke, Peter, Varvayanis, and Velayas. Board members excused: Barrett, Clark.

INVOCATION: Given by Ron Hawke

HOMEOWNERS AND/OR GUESTS PRESENT: Steve Wallace, David McMillen, Larry Vaughn, John Tenbrink, and Fred Coleman.

COMMENTS:

McMillen gave information about the grader. Wallace explained why the new doors in the caretaker's cabin did not fit due to sagging foundation and a tree too close to foundation, and that the central heat was to replace wood burning. He expressed opinions regarding: grader vs. Bob Cat, installation of new road signs, suggested replacing all road signs with green ones, one portable potty should be removed after Labor Day, and the snow plow repairs. Coleman had concerns: caretaker's work hours, picking up piles of debris raked by homeowner from ditch, grader, dog park rules not posted, rumors in the park, park truck out of park, ditches need cleaning, and inquired what Board members had planned to bid at auction. Vaughn stated concerns the caretaker repeating rumors and not working, resident seen taking cut wood from private property. Someone questioned about the condition of the individual injured at the lake. Harvey reported that he is in rehabilitation and we all wish him well. Erik Canales, briefly appeared to report his property had been vandalized. He was advised to contact the sheriff.

CORRESPONDENCE: Harvey reported Vicki Smith had requested an Evacuation Plan and inquired about recycling in the park. A letter has been sent in response.

HARVEY REPORTED ON THE ACTION THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS INITIATED AT THE CLOSED SESSION ON September 18, 2010. The Board passed a resolution:

Resolve : Board of Directors of OFSRA and OFSHA will move forward to attempt to purchase the property formerly known as Camp Cedarbrook Boy Scout Camp, approximately 21 acres. The BOD authorizes its agents to attend the auction and if appropriate enter a bid not to exceed \$300,000. Dated: September 18, 2010.

MINUTES OF BOARD MEETINGS: August 30, September 11, and 18, 2010: Nelson moved and Emery seconded that the minutes from special board meetings dated August 30, September 11, and September 18, be approved as presented. Motion Carried. Varvayanis moved that the minutes of August 21, be corrected to read, "It was decided in executive session to grant the caretaker a 5.5% raise." Hawke seconded. Motion carried.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

WATER-HAWKE: No water leaks this month. Upgrades and maintenance continue to our water system.

An Operations Manual has been prepared by our water person. Follow-up of maintenance items found by the Inland company inspection are ongoing. He requested that homeowners **PLEASE, UPDATE THEIR CONTACT INFORMATION ESPECIALLY THEIR CURRENT PHONE NUMBER.**

ROADS-EMERY: Some problems occurred communicating with the new project manager at George Reed. Poor performance, but issues now resolved and ready to pay the bill. Wallace suggested purchasing white sand from Blue Mountain in Jamestown next year. He stated the black sand clumps and hardens like cement.

BUILDINGS-BARETT: REPORTED BY PETER: Contractor finished work on walkway, dormer, and roof line at caretaker's cabin.

EQUIPMENT-PETER: Snow plow is being worked on to prepare it for winter. A bid of \$50.00 has been received for the old mower. Put in newsletter and solicit additional bids.

TIMBER-VARVAYANIS: Dead tree to be removed on Esther. Waiting for proof of insurance from vendor.

HEALTH AND SAFETY-FIALHO: No report. Will follow up on removal of portable potty.

RECREATION-CLARK: Octoberfest will be October 16, 5 p.m. Advanced reservations are \$5.00 per person, and \$10.00 at the door. See notice in newsletter.

GATE-VARVAYANIS: no change.

FINANCE-VELAYAS: Total bills \$98,710.55, includes a \$50,000.00 repayment to Timber Fund. Moved by Hawke seconded by Emery to pay the bills. Motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

1. **Comcast and Sierra Nevada Communication update Varvayanis**, heard from both businesses. Nothing to report except Comcast shows interest and Sierra Nevada wants to connect to box on David. Will keep Board members advised of further contact. Board needs to see a plan of action from each company.

2. **Audit vs. Financial Review- moved by Fialho, seconded by Hawke to:** request from Auditor:

- Scope of services for financial period ending 2004-2011.
- Return with scope of services at next meeting for consideration.
- At next meeting determine whether services should be secured as submitted or modified.
- Possibly consider whether a committee of board members or residents should participate on a committee to review financial review.

Motion carried.

4. **Upgrade office equipment-gate computer-Varvayanis-** A Donated computer will be used at the gate and the current computer will work in the office for a while.

5. Auction for former Camp Cedarbrook property - The opening bid was \$581,818.93, exceeded the top bid the Board was authorized to pay. No bids were submitted by any party.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. How to deal with those who break park rules- Seeking attorney advice.
2. New Evacuation signs have been ordered.
3. Homeowner requested temporary permit for ATV use in park, postings in Newsletter for services or items for sale and Seniors be allowed to fish.

Insurance Company advised liability for ATV use is high, monitoring and inspecting ATV units is time and cost prohibitive. Notices for services and items for sale can be posted on lodge bulletin board. Opening lake to adult fishing will be addressed next year. Letter will be sent to homeowner requesting changes.

4. Petty cash fund or debit card for use by caretaker for small purchases- Harvey will investigate options.
5. Drain Lake- At end of fire season.

ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION AT 11:10 AM

EXECUTIVE SESSION CALLED TO ORDER AT 11:15 AM

ADJOURN EXECUTIVE SESSION 12:07 PM

OPEN REGULAR SESSION 12:07 PM

HARVEY ANNOUNCED THAT NO ACTION WAS TAKEN IN EXECUTIVE SESSION

Charles was given permission to use the caretaker to install line for internet access to the park office.

Discussed training for caretaker in operation of equipment before winter weather.

Mr. Canales reappeared to report that he had reported the vandalism and talked to the sheriff. He requested permission to put a chain across the road to keep people out. Someone had reported to him that they had seen a white pick-up enter the area. Larry Vaughn returned to collect a coat, and confirmed that he had seen a white pickup in the area on Thursday around 3-5 pm. Mr. Canales stated that the family had been given permission by the Board in the 70s to use the road as access to the property. He stated that they had erected the bridge across the creek. Director Peter asked Mr. Canales his address. Not sure, Director Hawke responded, Canales address was 25283 Ester. Mr. Canales was told by Board members that he could not put a chain across the area because it is park property.

The Board went into Executive session. At 12:17 p.m.

Executive session ended at 12:21 pm.

Harvey announced no action was taken in Executive Session.

Meeting adjourned 12:22 pm

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 16, 2010.

Acting secretary, Gloria Harvey

ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION, INC.
CHECK REGISTER
As of September 30, 2010

Type	Date	Num	Name	Split	Amount	Balance
Paycheck	08/27/2010	1516	Baumann, Donald W.	payroll	-636.25	11,901.36
Paycheck	08/27/2010	1517	Higgins, Jr., Mark K.	payroll	-985.32	10,916.04
Liability Che	09/07/2010	1518	EDD	payroll tax	-66.21	10,849.83
Liability Che	09/07/2010	1519	Oak Valley Bank	payroll tax	-658.08	10,191.75
Check	09/08/2010	1522	Oak Valley Bank	796 · Income Tax Expense	-1,818.00	8,373.75
Check	09/08/2010	1523	Franchise Tax Board	795 · Franchise Tax Expenses	-1,340.00	7,033.75
Paycheck	09/10/2010	1520	Baumann, Donald W.	payroll	-465.37	6,568.38
Paycheck	09/10/2010	1521	Higgins, Jr., Mark K.	payroll	-1,044.34	5,524.04
Check	09/14/2010	1524	MARK HIGGINS	745 · Employee Health Ins. Reimbur:	-120.00	5,404.04
Check	09/23/2010	1088	Odd Fellows Sierra Rec. Assn.	133 · Oak Valley Community Bank M	1,000.00	6,404.04
Paycheck	09/24/2010	1525	Baumann, Donald W.	payroll	-60.24	6,343.80
Paycheck	09/24/2010	1526	Higgins, Jr., Mark K.	payroll	-1,044.34	5,299.46
Check	09/28/2010	1527	AT&T	telephone	-114.38	5,185.08
Check	09/28/2010	1528	Auto Discount Repair	773 · Maintain Equipment	-4,377.01	808.07
Check	09/28/2010	1529	Carlson, Haff & Associates	756 · Accounting Services	-2,509.00	-1,700.93
Check	09/28/2010	1530	Linda Clark	postage and ink	-142.92	-1,843.85
Check	09/28/2010	1531	Dept. of Motor Vehicles	786 · Taxes and Licenses	-962.00	-2,805.85
Check	09/28/2010	1532	El Dorado Septic Service, Inc.	740 · Health & Safety	-115.50	-2,921.35
Check	09/28/2010	1533	Paul Emery	758 · Member Communications	-5.54	-2,926.89
Check	09/28/2010	1534	Forestland Consulting	755 · Professional Services	-300.00	-3,226.89
Check	09/28/2010	1535	George Reed, Inc.	774 · Maintain Roads	-14,339.73	-17,566.62
Check	09/28/2010	1536	Glenn S. Caldwell Ins.Svcs.	744 · Insurance	-3,288.00	-20,854.62
Check	09/28/2010	1537	Great American Insurance Co.	744 · Insurance	-103.00	-20,957.62
Check	09/28/2010	1538	Gloria Harvey	774 · Maintain Roads	-57.92	-21,015.54
Check	09/28/2010	1539	Ron Hawke	766 · Office Supplies	-136.73	-21,152.27
Check	09/28/2010	1540	Joe Cover & Sons Inc.	760 · Needle Expense	-15,350.00	-36,502.27
Check	09/28/2010	1541	Krawchuk, Paul	794 · Water Testing & Fees	-425.00	-36,927.27
Check	09/28/2010	1542	Mike's Mowers	773 · Maintain Equipment	-5.41	-36,932.68
Check	09/28/2010	1543	PG&E	utilities	-1,645.77	-38,578.45
Check	09/28/2010	1544	Pine Alley Saw Shop	773 · Maintain Equipment	-40.68	-38,619.13
Check	09/28/2010	1545	Postmaster	758 · Member Communications	-285.00	-38,904.13
Check	09/28/2010	1546	Preferred Employers Ins. Co.	744 · Insurance	-830.00	-39,734.13
Check	09/28/2010	1547	Roger A. Brown	755 · Professional Services	-52.00	-39,786.13
Check	09/28/2010	1548	Sierra Instant Printing	758 · Member Communications	-331.52	-40,117.65
Check	09/28/2010	1549	Twain Harte Lumber & Hdwe.	780 · General Park Maintenance	-192.94	-40,310.59
Check	09/28/2010	1550	Valley Entry Systems	737 · Gate Expense	-1,708.19	-42,018.78
Check	09/28/2010	1551	Charles P. Varvayanis	postage, office supplies	-111.14	-42,129.92
Check	09/28/2010	1552	Village Mail & Print Stop	758 · Member Communications	-46.47	-42,176.39
Check	09/28/2010	1553	Waste Mgmt.of Cal Sierra Corp.	736 · Garbage	-1,142.38	-43,318.77
Check	09/28/2010	1554	Zaks	773 · Maintain Equipment	-16.47	-43,335.24
Check	09/28/2010	intuit	Intuit	766 · Office Supplies	-135.91	-43,471.15
Check	09/28/2010	1089	Odd Fellows Sierra Rec. Assn.	133 · Oak Valley Bank M.M.	55,000.00	11,528.85
Check	09/29/2010	1555	General Plumbing Supply Co. Inc.	775 · Maintain Water Systems	-125.85	11,403.00
Check	09/29/2010	1556	Anthem Blue Cross	728 · Employee Benefits	-599.00	10,804.00
					-1,733.61	10,804.00
					-1,733.61	10,804.00

ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Special Meeting Board of Directors

August 30, 2010

This Special meeting was called to discuss what action the Board should take regarding Camp Cedarbrook being sold at a auction on September 21, 2010 and whether or not a survey should be sent to the general membership to find out the opinions of those members.

The meeting was held via conference call and was opened at 10:00 AM

Board members calling in: Vice President Peter; Secretary Clark; Treasurer Velayas; members Barrett, Emery, Fialho, Hawke and Varvayanis. President Harvey was excused.

Prior to this meeting Varvayanis had prepared a survey form to be sent to the general membership. This form had been emailed to all the Board members, so all were aware of and approved its contents. The purpose for doing the survey is to obtain guidance from the membership in regard to the purchase of Camp Cedarbrook.

Lengthy discussion was held as to the possibility of the Association acquiring the Camp Cedarbrook property, how much should be paid, what funds should be used and if the Timber Fund Reserves were used should those funds be repaid and how that should be accomplished.

It was decided that Varvayanis should proceed with the mailing of the survey forms to all members.

The Board agreed that a Special BOD meeting be held on Saturday, September 18, 2010 at 9 AM to discuss the results of the survey and determine what action the Board should take in regard to bidding on the Camp Cedarbrook property.

The Special meeting adjourned at 11:51 AM

Linda Clark
Secretary

ODD FELLOWS SIERRA RECREATION ASSOCIATION, INC.

Special Meeting Board of Directors

September 18, 2010

This Special meeting was called to order by President Harvey at 9:04 AM. Board members attending in person: Peter, Barrett, Clark, Hawke, Varvayanis. Board members attending by telephone: Fialho and Velayas. Board member excused: Emery

This Special meeting was called in order to further discuss what action the Board should take regarding Camp Cedarbrook being sold at auction on September 21, 2010 and to hear input from property owners in attendance.

President Harvey began the meeting by welcoming all in attendance and stating that a closed meeting session would be held after hearing input from the property owners. Those wishing to speak would be limited to a two minute time period to state their concerns. She began by reading the results of the survey that had been sent to all property owners. A copy of those results is attached to these minutes as *Exhibit A*.

President Harvey addressed many questions and statements made by the following persons:
James Lenhardt, Daryl Clark, Clark Kellogg, Fred Coleman, Wanda Lenhardt, Serge Peluso, Maynard Wallin, Mary Wallace, Diane Burton, Betty Peluso, Judy Wallin, Richard Wheeler, Sue Reynolds and Bob Henning.

President Harvey responded to the many questions and concerns explaining that a great deal of research and due diligence has been done by the Board of Directors in the short period of time since learning of the Camp Cedarbrook property going to auction. Clarification of issues regarding the spending of Timber Fund monies has been addressed by attorney Roger Brown. His interpretation and opinions on the By-Laws of both the Homeowner's Association and the Recreation Association regarding the Timber assets and the expenditure of Timber Fund monies has been given to the Board of Directors. At this point there are many unknown factors regarding the Camp Cedarbrook property and many issues to be discussed.

After lengthy discussions and input from the many property owners, the open portion of the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 AM.

After a short break the Board met in Closed Session beginning at 9:52 AM
The Closed Session was adjourned at 10:55 AM

The results of the closed session were that the Board determined by resolution that the Board of Directors of the OFSRA and OFSHA will move forward to attempt to purchase the property formerly known as Camp Cedarbrook Boy Scout camp, approximately 21 acres. The BOD authorized President Harvey to be its agent to attend the auction on September 21, and if appropriate enter a bid not to exceed \$300,000. These funds are to be expended from the Timber Fund.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:59 AM.

Linda Clark
Secretary

OFSHA Responding	145	48.3%	Percentage of OFSHA members (Asuming 300 individual members)
OFSRA Responding	62	42.8%	Percentage of all respondents
Percentage of OFSRA		67.4%	Percentage of OFSRA members (Asuming 92 total members)
OFSHA - Yes	106	73.1%	OFSHA
OFSHA - No	39	26.9%	OFSHA
OFSRA - Yes	41	66.1%	OFSRA
OFSRA - No	20	32.3%	OFSRA
OFSRA - Blank	1	1.6%	OFSRA
Maximum - \$300,000	5	12.2%	
Maximum - \$350,000	3	7.3%	
Maximum - \$400,000	7	17.1%	
Maximum - \$450,000	7	17.1%	
Maximum - \$500,000	6	14.6%	
Maximum - \$526,919	9	22.0%	
Maximum - Blank or other	4	9.8%	