

# Sierra Park Services News and Updates

Phone 209-533-7909

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November 2016

## Board of Directors 2016-2017

President	Heidi Ordwein
Vice President	Susie Lechner
V.P. of Assessments	Michael Lechner
Secretary	Wanda Lenhardt
Treasurer	Mitchell Gabriel
Director at Large	Bill Ordwein

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## President's Message

Winter has arrived in the Park...

Our "Indian Summer" was beautiful, but winter is suddenly here! This means two things for property owners. First of all, WINTERIZE, WINTERIZE, WINTERIZE to protect your home. Hopefully we'll have more snow or rain than in the past four years, but temperatures will surely fall -- and whether you are a full time or a part time resident you'll want to be prepared.

Second, on driving in the snow: please follow signs that prohibit parking on the roads, so that the snowplow can get through. And every year, even with just a little snow, some vehicles slide off of our roads - so be safe and make sure you have proper chains and equipment with you.

Though it may look like a fun idea, it is unsafe to sled on the roads. The "sledding" hill, playground or meadow areas are great for snow play, so the young and young at heart will have open areas to enjoy the snow away from traffic.

Dead trees will be an ongoing issue for some years to come. Our beautiful Park is changing with so many trees being removed, but it's a necessity for the health of the remaining trees and to prevent property damage. Please continue to monitor your trees and their health -- what was alive and in good shape months ago may not be so now. Many property owners have been faced with multiple removals. Information on qualifying for State assistance with removal is included on next following page.

Have a happy and safe holiday time!

-- Heidi Ordwein

## Holiday Magic!



Holiday party and  
magic show

**December 28<sup>th</sup>**

at the lodge

Starts at 4 pm - see  
details inside!

## Tree removal costs add up

Many have asked about the possibility of State aid to cover the cost of tree removal. Here is what we know to date: **The Tree Mortality Aid Program (TMAP) is now accepting homeowner applications for help with removing dead trees.** To qualify for aid through TMAP: eligible are older or disabled homeowners whose trees won't be removed by the county or PG&E programs and who can't afford to pay for the work. "Eligible" is defined as earning less than \$29,000 yearly (for couples, less than \$40,000). Homeowners with more than \$20,000 in liquid assets are ineligible. You can call the Area 12 Agency on Aging (209-532-6272) to get an application.



## Fire in surrounding timber area

The Sun Fire started between midnight and 5 am on Sunday, October 9<sup>th</sup> in the timberland (owned by the Rec Association) surrounding the Park. Resident Carmi Ennis spotted it Sunday morning and reported it. The fire, which began just off the road near the Water Company's Isaac water tank, burned about half an acre of timber. Fire department crews and their helicopters fought most of the day to put it out.

Kudos to Carmi for her help in averting a potential disaster for all homeowners and residents.

## Longtime resident's 90<sup>th</sup>

Doris Kilgore celebrated her milestone birthday here in the Park, surrounded by friends and family. The clan is shown gathered at the picnic table by the lake that was rebuilt in her honor, using long-lasting Ipe wood, by son-in-law Chuck Walker and caretaker John Marshall.

The two also resurfaced a second table with Ipe donated by Mark and Nancy Logan. These tables will be enjoyed by all for years to come - many thanks to those who helped, and congratulations to Doris.



## A Magical Holiday Party

This year's holiday party will feature a light supper and a professional magic show for all ages! The Board will provide soup, chili, rolls and salad, along with water and soft drinks - please bring an appetizer or dessert to share with your neighbors. BYO other beverages if you like. The fun starts at 4 pm with dinner followed by the magic show at 5:30. Hope to see you all there!



# Sierra Park Services Company Board of Directors Meeting Minutes for Nov. 5<sup>th</sup>, 2016

Meeting called to order at 10:50 by president Heidi Ordwein.

**Board Members Present:** Heidi Ordwein, Mitch Gabriel, Wanda Lenhardt and Bill Ordwein.

**Shareholders Present:** none

**Others Present:** Chuck Walker

**Attendees' Comments/Questions:** none

***NOTE:** All property owners, shareholders and Park residents are welcome to attend Board meetings to observe the discussion, and will be given an opportunity to address the Board with comments, questions or concerns. However, Board policy prohibits video or audio recording of the meetings. Since there is business to conduct during these meetings, any visitors who become disruptive will be asked to leave.*

**Approval of the Minutes:** Wanda moved to approve the minutes of the May 29<sup>th</sup> annual shareholder's meeting. Mitch seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

**Communications:** Wanda Lenhardt, secretary

**Emails:**

- Two about gate access
- One inquiry into television service providers within the Park
- One pending change of ownership
- Multiple emails regarding dead trees
- Inquiry about dumping slash from tree removal at the needle dump
- Three asking why newsletter and annual meeting minutes were sent via email and US mail
- One regarding an email sent to OFSRA
- One regarding road damage

**Phone Calls:**

- One regarding phone service at their cabin
- Question about using the lodge
- One inquiry from a realtor
- One inquiry to find a realtor
- One inquiry about an email received regarding OFSRA, questioning whether it was a scam
- Several billing questions
- Sixteen calls regarding the gate
- Multiple calls regarding dead trees
- One inquiring whether personal property can be rented
- One HOA inquiry

**Directors' Reports:**

- **Caretaker Report** - Heidi Ordwein - John is coordinating with PG&E workers who are removing trees in the Park. He is searching for a grabber attachment for the tractor to pick up and move logs on Park property. This would both reduce the time required and increase safety.

Starting November 1, the pine needle dump is closed until spring. A sign is posted at the dump entrance indicating OPEN or CLOSED. Please verify dump status before loading up your truck or trailer!

Wood from tree removal operations is available for homeowner use. Wood can also be removed from the Park by not-for-profit service organizations such as Rotary.

Small bridge near East Jordan: a local structural engineer is assessing its structural soundness and potential for repair, and will create a report outlining his findings/recommendations.

A squatter was reported in the red cabin near the lodge. After a visit from the Sheriff he has left the Park. Please call the Services hotline number if you spot anyone camping out in a vacant cabin.

This year's holiday party will be December 28<sup>th</sup>, and will include a family magic show designed for all ages. The Board members will donate soup, chili, rolls and salad, and attendees will be asked to contribute an appetizer or dessert to share. Adult beverages will be BYOB.

- **Secretary** - Wanda Lenhardt - No new shares of stock have been sold. No lodge rentals have been scheduled.
- **Treasurer** - Mitch Gabriel - Bills for the month of June were reviewed. The Board agreed to approve and pay all bills. Aging report: at meeting time, 32 people had not paid their annual bills for 2016/2017. Some amounts owed are small; Mitch will work with Carlson on next steps.

Mitch and Carlson are working together to reorganize the budget for clearer accounting. Bill made the motion to pay the bills; Wanda seconded and the motion was unanimously approved.

**Roads** - Bill Ordwein - The gate has battery backup in case of power outages. If the batteries die, the gate is

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**Roads** - Bill Ordwein - The gate has battery backup in case of power outages. If the batteries die, the gate is inoperable. Monitoring is needed. Some new residents have not been receiving card keys from their sellers and they buy new ones of their own, so the system is getting full. Bill will work at deleting inactive cards from the system. Resident Chuck Walker has volunteered to work with Bill on gate operations and gradually take on responsibility for them.

- Heidi reported that one-fourth of the Park's roads were crack sealed this fall for the agreed-upon bid on \$23,000. Tree removal companies are trying to minimize use of Park roads, but the roads are taking a beating from the big trucks.

#### Old Business:

- Cable communications in the Park: no official update from Sierra Nevada Communications.

#### New Business:

- Board members will bring ideas for future projects to the next Board meeting. Some topics on the table include cameras at the garbage dump and an outside phone at the gate.

The meeting temporarily adjourned to executive session at 12:52 pm to discuss issues relating to legal and financial matters.

The regular meeting reopened at 1:25 pm. Report from executive session:

- The Board has agreed to adjust aged billings on a case-by case basis, to be based on the judgment of Mitch Gabriel and Michael Lechner.

The meeting ended at 1:48 pm. *Next meeting will be at 9:00 am on January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017.*

