

**Silver Lake Home Owners Association
General Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2021 @ 5:30 p.m., Via Zoom**

Call to Order and Discuss Zoom Meeting Protocols - Barb Andrews

Review General Meeting Agenda – Barb Andrews

Introduction of Board Members - President: Barb Andrews, Treasurer: Erik Foraker, Secretary: Sally Timperley, Board Members: Pete Bogardus, Tara Bedney, Stephanie DeGraff Hunt, Rob Yelland, Board Members Elect: Hap Heiberg and Laurel Moulton, President Emeritus: Alan Siemer

Attendance Confirmation- Laurel Moulton confirmed Quorum status and Attendance

Review and Approve July 4, 2021 General Meeting Minutes- Sally Timperley. No Discussion. (Approved Landreth/Carroll)

Officer's Reports

President's Report (Barb Andrews)

Dixie Fire and Pending Access to Silver Lake / Communications w/USFS, Lassen Co. Sheriff, and CAL FIRE - **Questions to be submitted to Chat Feature and addressed at end of meeting.**

- 1) Silver Lake remains under evacuation orders until further notice of the USFS.
 - a. Barb and Alan will continue to monitor the daily incident reports or any other issues posted by the USFS and CAL FIRE, and communityzonehaven.com, for updates.
- 2) Region 5 Forest Closures through September 17, 2021. The closures of all National Forests in Region 5, including Lassen, are separate from Evacuation Orders.
 - a. Campgrounds will likely not reopen until next year.
 - b. USFS will not permit our return to the lake until it is safe, which may be late September or early October at best. However, we will continue to monitor the situation with the USFS and report out as soon as possible.
 - c. It is likely that the Caribou may remain off limits to hiking/exploring once we're permitted back to the cabins. While curiosity runs high, we request that people respect and abide by any closure orders or restrictions. If any mishap would occur, it would be a reflection on the Silver Lake tract community, and would not be advantageous to our relationship with the USFS. We owe the USFS, CAL FIRE, Lassen Co. Sheriff/USFS Law Enforcement, and firefighters from across the U.S. for the preservation of our cabins.
- 3) What has saved Silver Lake
 - a. Clearing of the forest behind the cabin access roads from 15 – 20 years ago.
 - b. Dozer lines, sprinkler kits around cabins, falling of hazard snags at roads, and backfiring operation behind North Shore.
- 4) Three phases of Wildfire Recovery
 - a. Fire Suppression Repair (Mop Up) – A series of immediate post-fire actions taken to repair damages and minimize potential soil erosion and impacts resulting from fire suppression activities and usually begins before the fire is contained, and before the demobilization of an Incident Management Team. This work repairs the hand and dozer lines, roads, trails, staging areas, safety zones, and drop points used during fire suppression efforts. This is all occurring right now at the lake.
 - b. Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) – Emergency Stabilization – BAER is a rapid assessment of burned watersheds by a BAER team (USFS) to identify imminent post-wildfire threats to human life and safety, property, and critical natural or cultural resources on National Forest System lands and take immediate actions to implement emergency stabilization measures before the first post-fire damaging events. Actions such as removal of safety hazards, prevention of permanent loss of critical habitat, and the prevention of the spread of noxious weeds, among other actions, will take place.
 - c. Long-Term Recovery and Restoration – Utilizes non-emergency actions to improve fire-damaged lands that are unlikely to recover naturally among other repairs. This phase

may include restoring burned habitat, reforestation, other planting or seeding, and monitoring fire effects among other actions. This is where the SLHOA needs to move forward with an ongoing, annual Fire Abatement management plan.

- 5) SLHOA Fire Abatement Fund (FAF) – This fund will support annual water testing of Silver Lake, and fire abatement along Silver Lake access roads, helping to pay for annual removal of snags and debris at roads. Without raising any dues, we can allocate \$5K for 2022. This is in addition to any general work that needs to be done by homeowners around the cabins. These efforts will be overseen by the Post Fire Restoration / Fire Abatement Committee that will be discussed in further detail later in the meeting.
- 6) Caretaker and Caretaker Cabin – Barb Andrews
 - a. Gene’s season will end this year on September 30th, but he will be returning in 2022. Pending our return to Silver Lake, Gene will likely be closing his cabin along with the rest of us.
 - b. Caretaker Cabin Oversight Committee – Molly Brodie, Joan Brodie, and Stephanie DeGraff Hunt are leading this committee to oversee repairs and priorities for keeping the caretaker’s cabin maintained. Many thanks to Molly and Joan for painting the bathroom and kitchen of the cabin, and to Paul Young for working on the water line repairs under the cabin. There was some question as to possible lead leaching in the water line to the cabin. Hap tested it, and it’s all clear.
- 7) Garbage bins may be gone by the time we return, so plan accordingly.
- 8) National Forest Homeowners Association – Annual Conference, October 15 and 16, 2021, The Village at Squaw Valley, Tahoe City, CA (Pending COVID risks. May become a Zoom call.)
 - a. Barb has been asked to present at the meeting, providing an introduction of iNaturalist app that enables all ages to download their observations in nature. It can be a positive tool to document what regenerates/remains/or is introduced post-fire. Potential NFH project in iNat for anyone to join and upload observations that will support scientific studies and restoration efforts. More in the Fall SLHOA Newsletter.

Treasurer’s Report (Erik Foraker)

Highlights for period ending 08/31/2021 (first 4 months of FY 2022):

Profit & Loss

Permit Holders	\$24,010.00 – (\$490) 50 budgeted, 49 paid
Family & Associates	2,445.00 – (\$35) 65 budgeted, 70 paid
NFH Dues	480.00 – (\$30) 11 budgeted 16 paid
Bank Interest	.18
Donations	<u>6.35</u>
Total Income	\$26,941.53
Expenses	<u>16,351.32</u>
Net Income	\$10,590.21

Account Balances

Checking Account	\$31,251.24
Savings Account	5,218.19
PayPal Balance	<u>5,310.74</u>
Total	\$41,780.17

Committee Reports

Newsletter (Ian Foraker)

- 1) Please submit contributions (family updates, pictures or any ideas for topics) for the newsletter or any feedback regarding the newsletter to Ian via email at slhoanewsletter@gmail.com.

Board Membership

- 1) Elections - No other nominations were submitted for the Board. Hap Heiberg (Brodie Cabin 15) and Laurel Moulton (Curtis/Moulton Cabin 20) were unanimously voted in as new Board Members.
- 2) Position of Treasurer - Pete Bogardus was unanimously voted in as Treasurer.

Post-Fire Restoration / Fire Abatement Committee – Committee includes: Board Liaison, Hap Heiberg, with Jeff Cutler, Jed DeGraff, and additional board member, Laurel Moulton. Hap Heiberg reported that personal safety will be priority when returning to Silver Lake. He recommends a 3M brand 8511 N95 Mask, goggles, long pants, boots and gloves when cleaning up from the soot and ash that will be around the cabin and lake. Do not drink the lake water and bring drinking water from home.

- 1) Fire Abatement – This committee will work with the USFS to collaborate on a maintenance plan for the Silver Lake tract.
- 2) Development of Guidelines for additional maintenance around cabins, such as determining an appropriate amount of fire wood stored at cabins.
- 3) Water Testing Program – Hap will work with the USFS on water quality testing and determining the appropriate tests to be conducted, as well as testing and run-off abatement from dozer lines. Hap recommended that upon returning to the lake, everyone should check any outside plastic water lines, tanks or plumbing for heat damage.

Questions and Answers

- (1) How will we find out about the safety of well water? Hap suggested to wait to hear from the USFS, but we should be in pretty good shape as the fire didn't reach the cabins as expected.
- (2) How close were the fire/dozer lines to the cabins, and any risk to the leach lines? Alan said all the dozer lines were on the non-cabin sides of the lake, so leach lines should be ok.
- (3) What was the extent of damage outside of the Silver Lake area? Alan said that the most intense area of fire was between Caribou and up to Bogard. Visibility was bad when he was granted access with a Lassen Sherriff deputy. A21 road was good with fire crews in the area.
- (4) Will we be able to stay at the lake for more than one day to close? Barb stated that the USFS will not permit us to go back in until it is safe and then, access will not be granted for recreational use. Barb will keep everyone posted and updates will be sent out regarding when we can get to the lake.
- (5) Concern about freezing water lines: Jeff Cutler said that water lines should be ok until around November. Hopefully we can get in by then to take care of closing cabins.

Any further questions will be addressed and responses sent out to everyone via email.

Announcements

- 1) Next General Meeting is Sunday, July 3, 2022 – Amphitheatre is still available.
- 2) SLHOA July 3, 2022 Social – 5:00 p.m. Caretaker Cabin. Timperley's will host.
- 3) Closing Comments by Barb Andrews – A "thank you" to Scott Carroll for his years and his work on the Board.

Motion to Adjourn – 6:35 p.m. (Siemer/Carlsen)