



# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE SANDY NECK BOARD

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## Sandy Neck Board Meeting September 14, 2015

Chairman:  
Richards French

Vice Chairman:  
Thomas O'Neill

Board Members:  
William Carey  
Lynn Heslinga  
Nate King  
George Muhlebach  
Peter Sampou

Council Liaisons:  
Ann Canedy  
Phil Wallace

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on September 14, 2015 at the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Rich French.

### Roll Call:

- Board Members present: George Muhlebach, Pete Sampou, Tom O'Neill, Rich French, William Carey, Lynn Heslinga and Nate King.
- Staff: Park Manager Nina Coleman, and Donna Bragg, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Council Liaisons present: Phil Wallace and Ann Canedy.
- Public: Diane Lomba, and family, MBBA.

### Act on Minutes:

- Vote to accept July minutes with corrections made, with Nate King and Lynn Heslinga abstaining. Unanimous vote to accept August minutes with Fee hearing and dredging information provided by Ann Canedy to be attached.

### Correspondence:

- None to report.

### Staff Report:

#### *Park Manager Nina Coleman addressed the Board:*

- Beach was opened the middle of August. Typical and right on par with past years.
- Banner year for ORV sticker sales, complete report will be provided as figures are tallied.
- Off season gatehouse hours are posted; Sunday through Wednesday 9am to 4pm, with extended hours Thursday through Saturday 9am through 9pm.
- Still staffed in the field and will continue through Columbus Day Weekend. October 16<sup>th</sup> there will be no more charge for camper nights and winter hour's curfew begins.
- CoastSweep will take place September 26<sup>th</sup> from 9am to Noon. Sandy Neck Beach cleanup and data collection which goes into National database.
- Natural Resource Officer Chris Nappi has moved over to Natural Resources/Shellfish. The process of hiring a new Natural Resource Officer has been ongoing. Close to announcement of new NRO.
- Snack Bar Hours: closed as of Labor Day
- Bathhouse open on weekends
- Plover numbers question from Bill Carey answered. Sandy Neck was one of the top sites in Massachusetts for plover fledglings this year. Terns did not do so well. Turtles did very well. Numbers to be reported soon.
- Phragmites work to be starting soon at the cottage colony.

### Old Business:

- Pete Sampou reported that a CMZ grant in amount of \$148,500 was awarded to Sandy Neck to evaluate long-term management options for protecting the public beach facility. The project will include hiring a professional consultant to create an alternative analysis of different erosion solutions. Next the consultant will present the alternative analysis via a workshop and receive public impute. Finally, the consultant will create construction designs and submit permit applications for the chosen solution.

- Sandy Neck is also part of another CZM grant for \$175,930 awarded to the towns of Barnstable and Sandwich to study the process of sand movement from the Cape Cod Canal to Barnstable Harbor. This grant is separate from the erosion solution alternative grant.
- Nate King brought forth a motion to Town Staff to expedite the RFP for hiring of a consultant as quickly as possible. Pete Sampou seconded.
- There was discussion regarding whether to hire a consultant prior to getting the results of the sand movement study.
- There was discussion regarding who would do the hiring of the consultant and questioning if the board should be part of the hiring process.
- Park Manager Nina Coleman responded to the boards concerns and questions. The grant has not been accepted by the Town Council yet and not sure if we can move ahead until this occurs. After the hiring of the consultant, the board will have the opportunity to meet with the consultant for ideas, questions and feedback.
- It was asked from the board that there be every effort made to insure that the two studies interact along the way. What we can learn from the second study will be of help.
- After the discussion the motion was reread with the changes asked for: Motion for RFP to Town Staff to expedite the hiring of a consultant. The RFP within two (2) weeks of the meeting with a 30 day maximum. The motion carried unanimously.

### **New Business:**

- Presentation of report and slideshow of findings from the SNK revenue options committee from Vice Chairman Tom O'Neill. The report highlighted the balancing of issues: Flora & Fauna, people and uncertainties. Weighed value versus degree of difficulty. Looks at target surplus that would be needed to maintain a comfortable cushion for uncertainties. When asked, Nina told the board that the target is \$500,000 in reserves which we have for this fiscal year. Nina also said that it was an off year for increasing sticker and camper night fees as we just had an increase for 2015. Tom stated that to insure the cushion we are looking for \$40,000 to \$50,000 in increased revenue; protecting robust reserve. Ideas presented for consideration were:
  1. Wedding fee increase with more amenities. Tabled for now because of degree of difficulty.
  2. Increase in horse fees. Aspects of fee increase to be discussed at October meeting with an invitation to horse owners to attend meeting.
  3. Charge for parking lot access later in the day, 5pm instead of 3:30pm. Charge for parking lot access in shoulder during shoulder season.
  4. Use of email list already assembled for Holiday sales.
- Nina reminded the board that all fee increases will be addressed in the Town Manager meeting.
- Phil Wallace reported on the 14.1 acre parcel on Sandy Neck, recently purchased by the town. TNC will not be overseeing conservation regarding this parcel and Phil will keep the board apprised of conservation updates.
- Phil Wallace spoke with the Town Manager regarding potential Halfway House eco-friendly renovations. The thought is to have a design school contest for eco-friendly designs and invest in the Halfway House with the idea of attracting more users. In turn the investment will pay off over time. Further discussions to be held with Phil reporting findings back to the board.
- Election of Sandy Neck Board officers: Pete Sampou nominated Rich French for Chairman and Tom O'Neill for Vice Chairman. The nomination was seconded by Bill Carey. The vote was called and passed unanimously.
- Rich French addressed the board regarding the Labor Day meeting with the Cottage Colony. He reported they were happy with the escorts this year and they also agreed that cottage owners would call the gatehouse in a timely manner when requesting trail passes for their guests.
- Rich French presented Ann Canedy with a certificate of appreciation from the Cottage Colony for all her effort and work over the years.

### **Public Comment:**

None

### **Adjournment:**

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bragg, Secretary Pro Tem