

TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

SANDY NECK BOARD

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Sandy Neck Board Meeting April 8, 2013

Chairman:

Richards French

Vice Chairman:

William Carey

Board Members:

Barbara Bell
Lynn Heslinga
Nate King
George Muhlebach
Peter Sampou

Council Liaisons:

June Daley

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on April 8, 2013 at the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by Chairman Richard French.

Roll Call:

- Board Members present: Barbara Bell, George Muhlebach, Bill Carey, Nate King, Pete Sampou, and Rich French.
- Board Member absent: Lynn Heslinga.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager; and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Council Liaison: June Daley.
- Public: Wendy Paquette, Diane Lomba, and Milton Berglund.

Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Barbara Bell and seconded by Pete Sampou, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the March minutes as printed. Nate King abstained as he was not present at that meeting.

Correspondence:

- A notice was sent to the Sandy Neck Chair requesting he ask William Carey and Lynn Heslinga if they would like to be reappointed as their terms were expiring. Bill Carey signed the form and Lynne Heslinga will be emailed the form. Information will be forwarded to the Appointments Committee c/o Town Council Office.

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman addressed the Board:

- The gatehouse is open daily from 9 am to 4 pm. (this includes weekends). The 2012 stickers expire on April 15th. The fine is \$150.
- Winter curfew hours in effect until May 1st. Must be off the beach by 8 pm. Natural Resources Officers are on duty.
- Plovers are back but it is too early to report on anything. Ospreys are back, too.
- Because of previous storms and weather, the beach is changing daily. Too soon to report on the summer season. It has only been one month and huge changes have occurred in terms of beach redevelopment. Still another 1½ months for the beach to [re]develop. Too early to "make an action plan" for this summer. There is a lot of soft sand and it will remain this summer. Remember to air down or you will get stuck.
- Up-and-Coming Events: April 14th Whale Walk on April 14th and Celebrate Spring on April 17th. Check the website for more information: <http://www.town.barnstable.ma.us/SandyNeckPark>.

Old Business:

Marsh Trail Repair

PowerPoint presented by Nina Coleman. It is attached at the end of these minutes.

Highlights:

- The Town's Public Works Department performed the repair work.
- They fixed the Trail 5 entrance, the "rock area" at the Monroe cottage, more rocks for elevation after that cottage, the culvert, and 100 feet towards the Eleftherakis cottage, the marsh trail area at the gatehouse, pulled the old benches and replaced with boulders for hikers to sit on and rest.
- Thank you to the workers – Russ Moore, John Baker, Scott Provencher and Dave Silva.

Taisto Ranta Dedication

A rock in memory of Taisto Ranta was placed at Sandy Neck last summer and a framed photograph to be hung at the gatehouse was also presented to the Board last year however, there was never an actual dedication. Rich French asked the Board if they would like to have an official dedication this year.

A **motion** was made by Barbara Bell and seconded by Pete Sampou to have the Taisto Ranta Dedication on Sunday, April 28, 2013 at 1:00pm. All voted in favor of the motion. The family and the press will be notified.

New Business:

- None

Public Comment:

- Milton Berglund addressed the Board.
 - He was in front of the Board in November 2012. He believes there are too many ORV vehicles on Sandy Neck and he wants a daily limit [of vehicles allowed] on the beach.
 - Rich French explained that the vehicle limit is determined by the conditions of beach, width of the ORV corridor, and how much of the beach is actually open, to name a few reasons. Therefore, you can not put a number assignment to any day. The staff does limit the vehicles as conditions permit. No "artificial number" should be assigned. It is a judgment call by the staff with safety as the prime concern.
 - Mr. Berglund did not realize that the staff did limit the number of vehicles.
 - Nina Coleman reiterated that she does limit the number of vehicles. Safety is the biggest issue. This information is listed in the regulations. [*Sandy Neck Beach Park Regulations, Section 601-3. General Regulations, Subsection P: The Park Manager reserves the right to close or limit use of Barnstable's land at Sandy Neck to all oversand vehicles (ORVs), horses, and/or pedestrian and recreational traffic when public safety, wildlife habitat, tidal or extreme weather conditions warrant. This includes access for fishing, shellfishing, and hunting.*]
 - Mr. Berglund stated that he does not like it when there are so many vehicles during busy weekends. He was uncomfortable hiking during a busy holiday weekend. He does not want to see hundreds of vehicles.
 - Chairman Rich French explained that Sandy Neck is utilized by many different user groups and they all should be accommodated as long as safety is not compromised. Different people have conflicting ideas of limits on the beach but safety is the determining factor not people's personal preferences.
 - Nina Coleman restated that the bottom line is safety on the beach. The maximum number of vehicles can change day-to-day or even tide-to-tide. She is not going to make a determination based on people's choice of how it looks or recreational preferences. Safety is the chief issue and her goal. The determination and decision process is fluid.
 - Bill Carey explained that as long as he has been on the board there have been different users of the beach. Each group think that their interest is more important. The bottom line is all user groups need to be balanced.

The Board explained again – call the gatehouse immediately if there is an infraction (such as dogs off leash). To take pictures and come to the Board at a later date does not help as it is too late. Call when it is happening and staff will respond. Gatehouse number is 508-362-8300.

Public Comment cont'd:

- Diane Lomba invited everyone to the MBBA Beach Clean-Up on April 28th starting at 9 am. Lunch is served at noon. All is welcome to come help.

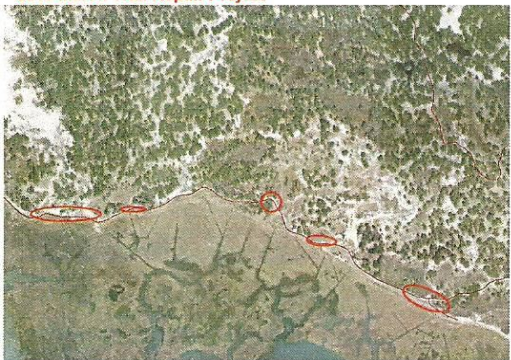
Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem

PowerPoint Presentation:

<p>2013 Marsh Trail Repair Project</p> 	<p>2013</p>  <p>West of Monroe Cottage Culvert</p>
<p>2013</p>  <p>MT/75 East of Mr. E. Cottage</p>	<p>2013</p>  <p>Marsh Trail at the Gatehouse 2013 Crew: Russ Moore, John Baker, Scott Provencher and Dave Silva</p>