



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE SANDY NECK BOARD

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Sandy Neck Board Meeting April 13, 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 April 13, 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, and Rich French.
Nate King and Bill Carey arrived late.
- Board Member absent: Lynn Heslinga.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager, and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Council Liaison present: Phil Wallace.
- Council Liaison absent: Ann Canedy.
- Public: Christine Player, CLE Engineering, Wendy Paquette, and Diane Lomba.

Act on Minutes:

- Before approving the March minutes, George Muhlebach asked for the minutes to include a dollar amount for the coir bags. The following sentence will be added to the March minutes:
 - *Sand filled coir bags, an immediate short term option of about 5 years, would have an estimated initial construction cost of \$400,000 to \$500,000. Annual maintenance dollar amount not included.*

Correspondence:

- None

Reminder: MBBA Beach cleanup is Sunday, April 19th starting at 9am.

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman addressed the Board:

- The gatehouse is now open daily from 9am to 4 pm. More hours will be added later in the month. ORV stickers expire on Wednesday, April 15th.
- Still hiring more staff – check the Town's website for employment opportunities.
- Plovers are back but too early to report on their activities.
- There will be a lot of new merchandise this year. Besides clothing there will be mugs, flags, water bottles, and more. Plus, everything can be purchased with credit cards!
- Difficult year for Marsh trail repairs. Work had to be done on Trail 5 to get to the Marsh Trail. Kudos to Town's Highway Dept.
- Nina Coleman brought forward a request to change the Orders of Condition for cottage owners to be escorted to Trail 6 not Trail 5. ConComm granted the request based on best available science.
- New curfew as of May 1st is 11 PM.
- Two hikes coming up: (1) Whale watch and (2) Signs of Spring.

New Business:

- None

Old Business:

Continuation of Erosion Control Solutions for the dune in front of the Sandy Neck Parking Lot with Christine Player, CLE Engineering.

- **Rich French:** At this time, he would like to put this discussion on hold. There is erosion control and money in place now – if needed. Perhaps we should wait and see what happens in the Town of Sandwich.
- **Pete Sampou:** Walked from Trail 2 down the shore. There is moving sand “in play” and will be moving along the shore. Good idea to wait and see what happens.
- **Rich French:** “Hurry slowly” may be a good motto right now.
- **Tom O’Neill:** Agrees. Need to look at the whole system – not just Sandy Neck.
- **Rich French:** CZM may now be more willing to help. There is a new regulatory climate.
- **Bill Carey:** Can not save the parking lot so perhaps we should look to retreat. In his opinion, sacrificial sand is a waste of money. Need to look at completely relocating the bathhouse and parking lots.
- **Tom O’Neill:** Is retreat just adding an additional buffer of sand? Is there anything else?
- **Phil Wallace:** Right now, the Town Council does not like the idea of retreat. But they also realize the cost for coir bags is \$500,000 - \$600,000 for a 3-7 year fix. Why spend that money when sacrificial sand is working right now.
- **George Muhlebach:** The last two years were bad [storms] but who knows what the future will bring. Coir bags do not make sense and are too expensive. Let’s continue with sacrificial sand if needed.
- **Nate King:** Retreat is wrong. Need to maintain what we currently have at Sandy Neck. Stop gap measures are needed.
- **Christine Player:** Sandy Neck has been relatively stable until the past couple of years.
- **Phil Wallace:** The Beach Access Committee has been lobbying the State for a cape-wide comprehensive plan to protect all the beaches on Cape Cod.
- **Nina Coleman:** Have not lost any more sand since the last placement of sacrificial sand. Should be fine until next year. Money in the budget for now. Permits are in place, too. Future is uncertain but she believes the coir bags are not the answer. This issue still needs to be addressed in the future. Need to look at retreat as one option.
- **Bill Carey:** There is a clear and present danger of loosing everything and would like a plan in place as soon as possible.
- **George Muhlebach:** Can we look at steel to protect the beach similar to the way the docks are being repaired at Barnstable Harbor? We need to protect Sandy Neck.
- **Christine Player:** No. Under the Wetland Protection Act you are not allowed to amour a dune system. You can not interfere with the natural tendency to migrate. Hardscape is not allowed. The Barnstable Harbor bulkhead is not an ACEC. Sandy Neck is an ACEC. The regulations may need to change. There is a new state administration and they are starting to shift because of what is happening to our shorelines. CZM has stepped up over the last three years. They are a good conduit – continue with them. Continue to be proactive.
- **Rich French:** Need to host a workshop - a multi-dimensional panel.
- **Nina Coleman:** We need to have a workshop that includes looking at changes in legislation and looking at the possibility of retreat.

Pete Sampou and Nate King volunteered to Co-Chair an Erosion Solutions Subcommittee.

Public Comment:

- Diane Lomba reminded everyone about MBBA beach clean up on Sunday at 9 am. Public is welcome. Family friendly. Free lunch is provided. There will be a burn if the weather permits.

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem