



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE
SANDY NECK BOARD
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Sandy Neck Board Meeting
November 14, 2016

Chairman:

Richards French

Vice Chairman:

Thomas O'Neill

Board Members:

William Carey
Nate King
William Monroe
Wendy Paquette
Peter Sampou

Council Liaison:

Phil Wallace
John Flores

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on November 14, 2016 in the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Richard French.

Roll Call:

- Board Members present: Pete Sampou, Tom O'Neill, Nate King, Bill Monroe, Wendy Paquette, and Rich French.
- Board Member absent: Bill Carey
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager, and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary.
- Council Liaisons absent: John Flores and Phil Wallace.
- Public: none.

Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Wendy Paquette and seconded by Pete Sampou, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the October 17, 2016 minutes as printed. Nate King abstained from the vote because he was not present at that meeting.

Correspondence:

- None.

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman addressed the Board:

- The Gatehouse is open Friday, Saturday, and Sunday only. Other times are by appointment. Call the gatehouse and leave a message 508-362-8300. In December, hours will be by appointment only.
- Hunting – pheasants are being stocked now (Saturday and Mondays) until Saturday November 26th. Rabbit, duck, goose, coyote and fox can be hunted at Sandy Neck – in the proper season.
- Not yet time for turtle stranding – still too warm.
- Winter curfew – must be off the beach by 4 pm. This is for safety reasons and also to save money on salaries. No campfires allowed. Campers are still allowed and they can have campfires at their sites.
- By looking at the cameras, Nina Coleman and her staff are able to see who is using the dumpster illegally.
- The Halfway House is being used more frequently.

Old Business:

The Long-term Coastal Resiliency Alternatives Report was discussed.

Pete Sampou addressed the Board:

- Pete Sampou sent an email to two Town Councilors but has not heard back. He will follow up and keep the Board up-to-date with his progress.

New Business:

Nina Coleman presented the 2016 Sandy Neck Annual Report

Highlights listed after this information:

Piping Plover

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Total Pairs (Total Count)	40	27	34	40	34
Number of Eggs	197	169	115	142	206
Eggs Hatched	14	36	70	75	43
<i>Chicks Fledged</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>42</i>	<i>55</i>	<i>23</i>

Over seven (7+) miles of symbolic fencing installed for plover habitat protection.

Diamondback Terrapin

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
# of Nests Head Started	5	4	5	5	*7
# of Nests Capped	110	82	131	133	135

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number of Nests	110	87	153	147	176
Number of Nests Predated	1	4	11	14	21
<i>Potentially Hatched Nests</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>142</i>	<i>133</i>	<i>155</i>

*Diamondback Terrapins Head-Started: 43 turtles in 21 organizations.

Terns:

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Least Terns (pairs)	75	79	223	144	54
Common Tern (pairs)	0	0	0	0	0

Stranded Sea Turtles (fall of 2015):

- 32 Kemp’s Ridley
- 9 Loggerheads
- 1 Leatherback (deceased)

Wetland Restoration:

- 48 isolated freshwater wetlands treated.
- 4 acres (approximately) of saltmarsh treated.

*Restoration refers to application of herbicides on Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) and Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) and mechanical removal of Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicari*) and an introduced grass (*Panicum amarum ssp. amarulum*).

Enforcement:

	2013	2014	2015	2016
<i>Citations</i>	62	61	53	79
<i>Written Warning</i>	3	5	6	13
<i>Permits Revoked</i>	11	13	12	24
<i>“No Trespass” Issued</i>	2	0	2 people, 3 dogs	5 people, 1 dog

Hunting

Pheasant Hunt: October 15-November 26 (estimated total of 250-275 pheasant stocked)

Revenue (fiscal year-Munis)

	FY12	FY13	FY14	FY15	FY16
Dune Fees (ORV)	\$549,593	\$431,782	\$541,363	\$567,069	\$725,578
Beach Parking	\$130,050	\$123,634	\$113,336	\$116,158	\$125,815
Sandwich Revenue	\$40,589	\$41,605	\$42,654	\$43,711	\$44,804
Beach Concession	\$13,711	\$15,996	\$10,500	\$7,500	\$4,200
Cottage Lease Fees	\$41,522	\$43,115	\$37,435	\$34,700	\$55,800
Parking Stickers	\$31,321	\$31,095	\$58,965	\$58,316	\$70,135
Merchandise	\$18,390	\$16,659	\$24,168	\$25,150	\$40,017
Miscellaneous	\$671	\$1,057	\$1,130	\$1,393	\$1,473
Earnings on Investments	\$7,848	\$9,643	\$11,466	\$10,833	\$6,110
Sale of Bond	\$5,629	0	0	0	0
Total Revenue	\$839,324	\$714,586	\$841,017	\$864,830	\$1,073,932

Off Road Vehicle Permits (calendar year Jan.-Oct.)

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Barnstable Resident	1,504	1,399	1,566	1606	1880
Sandwich Resident	926	863	932	N/A	N/A
Non Resident	1,273	1,145	1,389	2395	2665
Property Owner	142	143	151	144	138
Total # ORV permits	3,845	3,550	4,038	4,145	4,683

	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
Number Camping Nights	7,911	5,279	5,847	6,550	7,282

Escorts

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
June	23	0	47	30	6	4
July	41	14	74	51	13	6
August	18	24	7	37	13	0
September	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	82	38	128	118	32	10

Tent Camping: 117 nights

Campfire Wood: 661 bundles (\$3,966)

Campfire Permits for the Public Beach: 640 permits (\$3,200)

Four-Wheel Drive Camper Tests: 56 tests

Trails Passes Issued: 88 passes

Special Permits (weddings, group gatherings, etc.): 87 permits

Daily Horse Permits: 226 permits (\$4,520)

Walks and Talks (working with BLT and MA Audubon): 21 events

Beach Clean-ups (working with MBBA and Coast Sweep): 2 events

Junior Ranger Programs (working with the Recreation Department): 3 programs

Halfway House Permits: 12 daytrips, 5 overnights

Portable Toilets Available on the Beach: 9 units

2016 Changes to Fees/Policies:

Activity	Quantity	Revenue
Bodfish Charge 3pm-5pm	905	\$18,100
Campfire Permits	640	\$3,200
Daily Horse Passes	226	\$4,520
Total		\$25,820

Highlights regarding this information:

- Piper plover chick loss was from predation. There was a lot of re-nesting because of this predation.
- Terrapin numbers are increasing every year. The head start program is working with 43 turtles head-started in 21 different locations – very popular.
- Nina Coleman is working with the Cape Cod Botany Association who is doing a full survey of all the vascular plants on Sandy Neck. This is the first time this has been done and will be very helpful to have this working list available for future reference.
- Enforcement was up in 2016 – mostly under aged drinking. Zero tolerance for minors drinking and/or transporting alcohol.
- Revenue – first time over one million dollars in revenue – huge year. Big increase in dune fees collected (mostly because of nice weather). Parking hang tag cost increased town-wide so Sandy Neck also benefited. Concession stand is high quality but not a “money maker”. Renegotiated that contract – good working relationship. Cottage leases were renegotiated this year and fees went up. Merchandise sales were spectacular this year.
- New this year – campfire permits – 640 were sold. This new requirement helped to control the numbers of fires on the beach. There were some minor complaints.
- Due to some policy and fee changes last year – there was \$25,800 increase in revenue.
- Going to look at internal management goals this winter – such as streamlining procedures, gatehouse operations, etc.

New Business:

2017 Sandy Neck Meeting Dates:

Meetings start at 7:30 PM.

Meetings to be held at Town Hall, Selectman’s Conference Room - 2nd Floor, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA

January 09, 2017, February 13, 2017, March 13, 2017, April 10, 2017, May 08, 2017, June 12, 2017, July 10, 2017, August 14, 2017, September 11, 2017, October 16, 2017, November 13, 2017, December 11, 2017.

New Business:

FY 18 Budget Items

- Looking at RFID (Radio Frequency Identification / barcodes) to help with check-in time and accuracy at the gatehouse.
- Requesting a new gator this year to help with selling merchandise on the beach.

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:

- Cape Wildlife may have to close because of lack of funding. Sandy Neck Staff send many hurt/injured animals there. Rich French, on behalf of the Sandy Neck Board, will send a letter in support of their efforts.

Public Comment:

- none

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary