

**TOWN OF BARNSTABLE**  
**SANDY NECK BOARD**  
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**Sandy Neck Board Meeting**  
**April 9, 2018**

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 April 9, 2018 in the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by Chairman Richard French.

**Roll Call:**

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

**Act on Minutes:**

- On a **motion** by Wendy Paquette and seconded by Pete Sampou, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the March 12, 2018 minutes as printed with one abstention. Nate King abstained as he was not present at that meeting.

**Correspondence:**

Chairman French reported that the Board's letter regarding the Long-term Coastal Resiliency Alternative Study that was discussed at last month's meeting was given to the Town Council Office.

**Staff Report:**

***Nina Coleman addressed the Board:***

- The Gatehouse is now open daily 9:00 am to 3:30 pm. In-season curfew means that no vehicles may enter the beach between 9:00 pm and 8:00 am. Vehicles must exit prior to 11:00 pm.
- Staff is on daily – not only during Gatehouse hours.
- Renewal applications being processed. This can be done during daily Gatehouse hours or by mail.
- "Grayson merchandise" for sale. This is merchandise that was on the floor and wet from the storm. It was professionally laundered and is for sale at cost.
- The plovers are back. The fencing is up – as required.
- The lower lot is open. The pile of debris is available to be picked through.
- April 21<sup>st</sup> is MBBA clean-up. Camper Crew will be helping too. Looking for more volunteers.

**Staff Report cont'd:**

This chart was passed out to the Board and discussed at length. The entire presentation is available on line at <http://streaming85.townofbarnstable.us/CablecastPublicSite/show/7636?channel=1>

**Sandy Neck Parking Lot Dune Monitoring 2016-Present**

Location	5/10/2016	1/18/2018	3/7/2018	3/20/2018	4/6/2018
West-East	Sand Placement #4	After Grayson	After Riley	After Skylar	Sand Placement #5
Ramp Top	37.4	25.3	12.2	12.2	39.4
East of Ramp	38.2	32.2	24.4	24.4	57
Far West of Stair #1	61.4	28.7	16.8	16.8	58.2
West of Stair #1	48.5	36.5	10.5	9.8	56.5
Stair #1	65.7	46.4	24	24	63.1
Between Stairs	52.9	41.3	29.7	29.7	61.5
Stair #2	70.9	55.7	31.5	31.5	72.3
East of Stair #2	65.6	45.2	24.8	24	65.5

*Data represent a linear measurement(in feet and inches) of dune loss after storm events. Measurements were taken from fixed points at the top of the dune near the edge of the parking lot to the point where the dune drops off.*

Sand Placement	Date	Price	c/y	Notes
#1	Dec-13	\$119,250	5,500	
#2	Dec-14	\$90,000	4,300	Emergency Placement
#3	Feb-15	\$50,000	2,600	Emergency Placement
#4	Jan-16	\$50,000	8,500	Barnstable Harbor Dredging
#5	Mar-18	\$100,000	4,666	Emergency Placement
<b>Totals</b>		\$409,250	25,566	

**Highlights from this chart:**

- There are fixed points along the dune. Stakes are there and that is where the measurements are taken.
- Two easy winters prior to 2018. So started January 2018 in good shape.
- In March 2018, \$100,000 worth of sand was placed on beach – almost where the beach was before these storms.
- Must maintain access to the water.

These pictures show the sand that has been replaced. It is a darker color but will match the current sand when exposed to the elements. This sand came from Sandwich. Plus, the sand must meet permit requirements.



Regarding the marsh trails:

- DPW has repaired Trail 2. It is now passable.
- Trail 2 to Trail 1 is patched.
- Trail 2 up to Trail 5 is complete. But Trail 5 itself has down trees and big grade lost. More work needs to be done on Trail 5. The permits were extended to allow for this work.

### **Old Business:**

***Long-term Coastal Resiliency Alternatives Report including any update regarding plans to seek money to implement this study.***

- Chairman French reported that the Board's letter regarding the Long-term Coastal Resiliency Alternative Study that was discussed at last month's meeting was given to the Town Council Office. Unfortunately, it was not distributed to all the Town Councilors. However, after that meeting, one of the Councilors took the letter and said she would disseminate to all Town Councilors.
- Since that time, Chairman French received an email from Tom Lee, Chairman of Conservation Commission, inviting him to their meeting. He did go last Tuesday to talk about some of the Coastal Resiliency Alternatives Report. ConComm asked for another presentation of the entire report since there are new members on their Commission.

### ***Winders Lean-to Project***

This spring the project will be completed. Material has been ordered and Bill Monroe said that he will ask the people that helped before if they would continue with the project. Hopefully, in 3-4 weeks the weather will be more favorable and the project can be completed.

### ***New Sandy Neck APP***

***Donna Bragg revealed the new app.***

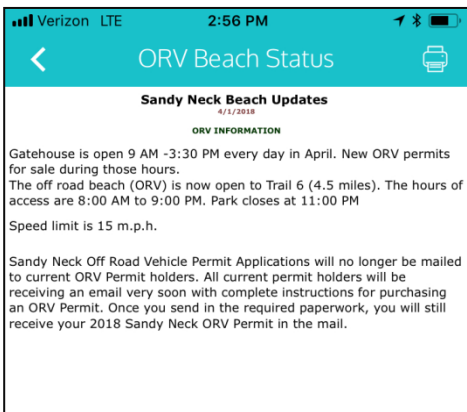
- Download available at <http://www.townofbarnstable.us/sandyneckpark/Mobile/Default.aspx>. Download onto your cell phone. It is a private app. If you need help downloading – call Donna Bragg at the Gatehouse (508-362-8300) and she will personally help you.
- The app will allow for quicker and more accurate information to be available immediately to users of this app.
- The entire process was explained in detail.



Click on this app on the website.



This is the homepage. On the top left is an “envelope”. This app is a push notification. Click on this envelope and the new information is there.



This page is very important. This is the ORV status. It is up to the minute information.

**KUDOS AND THANKS TO DONNA BRAGG**

**New Business:  
2018 Sandy Neck Nature Hikes and Events**

This is available on the website at: <http://www.townofbarnstable.us/SandyNeckPark/events/eventshome.aspx>

**Signs of Spring on Sandy Neck: Tuesday, April 17, 10 am – noon**

Sandy Neck awakens in April as Ospreys return to rebuild their bulky stick nests atop poles. Endangered Piping Plovers scour the vast beach for the ideal spot to scratch their simple nests. Rare Spadefoot Toads rush to breed in ephemeral pools in the dunes. Ian Ives of Mass Audubon's Long Pasture and Sean Kortis, Sandy Neck Natural Resource Officer, will be your guides through this spectacular landscape. *Programs are \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members/\$8 and \$10 for children. Pre-registration not required. For more information, call Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary at 508-362-7475 Ext 9355 or online [www.massaudubon.org/longpasture](http://www.massaudubon.org/longpasture)*

**Spring Beach Clean-up: Saturday, April 21, 9 am - noon**

Join the Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association for this yearly event. Activities include trash pick up and dune fence installation. Meet at the lower parking lot and spend the morning giving back to your favorite beach. Meet at the Sandy Neck lower lot. For more information call the Gatehouse: 508-362-8300.

**Sandy Neck Spring Flora & Fauna Hike: Wednesday, May 23, 10 am - noon**

Hike 1.5-miles through Sandy Neck's Great Marsh and sand dunes to explore barrier beach flora and fauna with Barnstable Land Trust and Sandy Neck Manager, Nina Coleman. You'll learn about ongoing efforts to protect and restore these and other sensitive natural communities. Wear sturdy hiking boots to walk over sand and uneven terrain. For more information call the Gatehouse: 508-362-8300. This hike is free.

**Searching Sandy Neck For Wildlife: From Ospreys and Piping Plovers to Diamondback Terrapin Turtles:**

**Select Dates Mondays: June 25, July 23, August 6 and August 20 from 9 am – 11:00 am**

Join MA Audubon naturalist Chris Walz and walk along the salt marsh, dunes and beach seeking signs of wildlife from wading shorebirds to mammal tracks to swooping swallows. *Programs are \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members/\$8 and \$10 for children. Pre-registration not required. For more information, call Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary at 508-362-7475 Ext 9355 or online [www.massaudubon.org/longpasture](http://www.massaudubon.org/longpasture)*

**Sandy Neck Plover Walk: Wednesday, June 6, 10 am – noon**

Discover hidden Piping Plover nests along the front beach with Barnstable Land Trust and Sandy Neck Park staff on a one-mile hike through the dunes of Sandy Neck. Explore barrier beach ecology. Learn about the Piping Plover's life-cycle and conservation measures being taken to protect these endangered shorebirds. Wear hiking boots for sand/uneven terrain. For more information call the Gatehouse: 508-362-8300. This hike is free.

**Sandy Neck Junior Ranger Program: Five Tuesdays, 9:30 am – noon, from July 3 – July 31, Ages 9-13**

Come explore the Sandy Neck barrier beach ecosystem as a Jr. Ranger. Jr. Rangers will earn their badge by participating in outdoor hikes, identifying local plants and animals including endangered species, learning how to rescue marine mammals such as dolphins and seals, and most of all having fun. Junior Rangers must be able to attend four out of five sessions to be eligible for the program. Space is limited to ten however more sessions may be added if needed. \$40 for each Jr. Ranger. For more information on enrollment call the Barnstable Recreation Department 508-790-6345.

**In Search of Diamondback Terrapins on Sandy Neck: Monday, July 9, 10 am – noon**

In summer, rare Diamondback Terrapins emerge from the Great Marsh to lay their eggs in the dunes of Sandy Neck. Join Sandy Neck Park staff and Mass Audubon's Ian Ives as we search for signs of nests and tracks of these amazing and mysterious turtles. Learn about the headstart program helping the tiny terrapins. *Programs are \$10 for members and \$12 for non-members/\$8 and \$10 for children. Pre-registration not required. For more information, call Long Pasture Wildlife Sanctuary at 508-362-7475 Ext 9355 or online [www.massaudubon.org/longpasture](http://www.massaudubon.org/longpasture)*

**Sandy Neck Summer Flora & Fauna Hike: Wednesday, August 15, 10 am - noon**

Hike 1.5-miles through Sandy Neck's Great Marsh and sand dunes to explore barrier beach flora and fauna with Barnstable Land Trust and Sandy Neck Manager, Nina Coleman. You'll learn about ongoing efforts to protect and restore these and other sensitive natural communities. Wear sturdy hiking boots to walk over sand and uneven terrain. For more information call the Gatehouse: 508-362-8300. This hike is free.

**Hiking for Terrapin Hatchlings on Sandy Neck, Saturday, September 15, 10 am – noon**

This fall we will be searching Sandy Neck for tiny tracks of hatchling terrapins with Natural Resource Officer Sean Kortis as the quarter-sized newborns make the treacherous journey from their sandy dune nests to the safety of the marsh.

**Sandy Neck Fall Migration Hike: Wednesday September 19, 9am – noon.**

Sandy Neck is a popular resting place for many migratory species on their way south along the east coast. The forested areas along the trails are made of a mix of deciduous and evergreen trees packed with high-energy food for the traveling birds. Additionally, many migrating birds linger on Sandy Neck shores, delaying their flights south for as long as possible. These birds tend to concentrate near their favorite food source before continuing on their journey. Join us for a migration hike as we welcome fall and the migratory birds that are leaving, returning, or just passing through. For more information call the Gatehouse: 508-362-8300. This hike is free.

**Coast Sweep 2018: Sunday, September 23, 9 am - noon**

Sponsored by the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management and coordinated by the Urban Harbors Institute, thousands of COASTSWEEP volunteers remove debris that would otherwise pollute our oceans, beaches, lakes, and rivers. Participants collect bag after bag of trash and debris, and record their findings onto data cards. The data is sent to the Ocean Conservancy and entered into a massive marine debris database. This information is then analyzed and used to identify the sources of marine debris, which helps to prevent the problem in the future. If you're interested in volunteering, **contact** Donna Bragg at Sandy Neck Gatehouse at **508-362-8300** or email us at [sandyneec@town.barnstable.ma.us](mailto:sandyneec@town.barnstable.ma.us)

**Fall Cape Cod Pathways Walking Weekend: Sunday, October 7, 10am – noon**

Experience a variety of habitats including the salt marsh, expansive sand dunes, swales and freshwater wetlands, and the intertidal along the front beach. At this time of year, we may have the opportunity to see rare migratory birds as well as diamondback terrapin hatchlings making their way towards the marsh. A fairly strenuous hike through soft sand. Good hiking boots, sunscreen, and plenty of water are recommended. For more information call the Gatehouse: 508-362-8300. This hike is free

*All Sandy Neck hikes are considered strenuous in difficulty.*

**FYI:**

The ospreys are back. The Gatehouse pole is tipped, but will be righted soon. There is also a snowy owl at that location.

**Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:**

Chairman French reminded the Board that he is still looking for their response to the survey request that was distributed last month from Town Council President Eric Steinhilber. Send comments to Chairman French and he will compile and forward.

**Public Comment:**

- None

**Adjournment:**

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary