



# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

**SANDY NECK BOARD**  
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## **Sandy Neck Board Meeting February 13, 2023**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on February 13, 2023 at 7:13 pm in the Selectmens Conference Room.

Chair:

Thomas O'Neill

Vice Chair:

Peter Sampou

Board Members:

Ann Canedy  
William Carey  
William Monroe  
Maureen Piccione

Council Liaison:

Gordon Starr  
Kris Clark

Barnstable

PD Liaison:  
Chris Kelsey

### **Roll Call:**

Board Members present by roll call: Tom O'Neill, Pete Sampou, Maureen Piccione, Bill Monroe, Ann Canedy, and Bill Carey.

Board Members absent:

Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager, Manager and Donna Bragg, Operations Supervisor. Josh Kelleher, Natural Resource Officer.

Staff Member absent:

Council Liaisons present:

Barnstable Police Liaison: Chris Kelsey.

Public: Paul Berger, Tracy Hallett, and Rich French.

Guest Speaker:

### **Act on Minutes:**

On a motion by Ann Canedy and seconded by Pete Sampou, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the December 12, 2022 Board Minutes.

**Public Comment:** None.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Staff Report:** Nina Coleman addressed the Board.

- Staff is doing a number of Diamondback Terrapin talks for the schools that are head starting the Terrapins.
- During the winter months we are working on processing the Off Road Vehicle, (ORV), permits. The actual permits have not arrived yet. They were delayed. We have emailed the patrons and let them know that if they have paid for their 2023 permits, they can print out their receipt and use the beach. Once the permits come in we will be mailing them out. Staff is at the Gatehouse for anyone who needs their receipt printed out. March 9<sup>th</sup> is the anticipated date the physical permits should arrive.
- Sandy Neck as well as Natural Resources went to a bird of prey training in Springfield Mass. Excellent training with live bird exhibits. Training was given regarding how to rescue birds of prey.
- Seasonal jobs have been posted on the Town of Barnstable website.
- Cold stunned turtle update. Record breaking year. We had 152 stranded in Barnstable. A lot of different people were pulled in to help. Most of the turtles were alive when found.
- Donna Bragg and Sandy Neck were awarded for the work that Sandy Neck does with the Veterans. There is a program through the Cape Cod Veterans Center that those Veterans who use the services of the Cape Cod Veteran Center may be able to obtain an Off Road Vehicle Permit through the Nicholas G. Xiarhos Memorial Fund.
- There is a new wood stove at the Halfway House. Thanks to Pete for providing the stove and to Rich and Josh who helped move and install the stove. Pete intends to get a school group out to the Halfway House sometime in March to give it a good cleaning. Nina said that there are more reservations for the Halfway house this year.
- Nina presented the Organization chart for Sandy Neck. Bill Carey asked whose payroll the Lifeguards are on. Nina said that as an enterprise account Sandy Neck pays for the Lifeguards.  
\*See attached report.

**Old Business:** Taken out of order.

**1. Conservation and beach erosion along our coastlines.**

**2. Economic sustainability.**

**3. Public outreach and public use & participation.** Bill Monroe addressed the Board. There is another Eagle Scout candidate that is putting together a proposal to put up benches along the Marsh Trail as resting spots for patrons. There is communication between Marsh Trail Group and Cottage Colony using emails to keep everyone apprised of any issues regarding trails or any other issues that may impact travel.

**4. Sandy Neck Beach Reconfiguration Project Update.** Nina addressed the Board. There were two public outreach sessions held; one in person and one via zoom. The three options that approved by the Board and the working committee were presented. 1. Hardscape. 2. Partial relocation. 3. Full relocation. The working group during drafting of the presentation decided that the full relocation of the parking lot was the way to go. In the presentation it was explained to the public why the other two options were not viable alternatives. The third option checked all the boxes and was the most financially suitable. Several weeks were given to allow the public to make comments. The public comments were taken into considerations and revisions to the plan are underway.

Nina said that the Board had not weighed in as to which alternative of the three chosen they were in favor of. She sked the Board members if they wished to have a discussion regarding the three alternatives. Tom stated that the full relocation of the parking lot is the best solution and asked that the Board consider voting on that option tonight. The real issue is the parking lot and that is the mission critical portion of the alternative. He believes it to be an urgent issue. Ann asked if the public comments have been or will be published. Nina said we are working on the comments. She said the comments were not about the parking lot being located. Everyone seems to be in agreement about the parking lot and it is very positive. A discussion between the Board members regarding voting at this time and perhaps reserving a time for another vote as more information is gathered was brought forward. Bill Carey said they could vote on what they know now.

Nina stated that this vote was about choosing the full relocation of the parking lot. This will be the basis of the project with changes being made to the plan as it progresses. Tom stated the parking lot relocation is imperative. Maureen stated that the working group had stated the full relocation was the best alternative. The Board was waiting on the recommendation from the working group. The working group has given their recommendation, and she felt that there should be a vote on the working group's recommendation.

A vote was held on a motion from Tom O'Neil, stating:

The Sandy Neck Board is recommending to the Town of Barnstable that the Sandy Neck parking lots be moved behind the fifty year erosion line limit as described in the Coastal Resiliency Plan Project, option number six (6), presented at the public outreach meetings on January 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, 2023.

Bill Carey seconded the motion.

The vote went as follows:

Pete Sampou, Aye; Bill Monroe, Aye; Bill Carey, Aye; Maureen Piccione, Aye; Ann Canedy, Aye; Tom O'Neill, Aye. Motion carried.

Bill Carey asked that as things evolve, the Board is apprised of all the information. Tom agreed.

### **New Business: Taken out of order.**

Natural Resource Officer, Josh Kelleher presented the annual Safety Solutions report for Sandy Neck. The report summarized the Off Road Vehicle permits and camping nights for 2022. The bulk of the report was in regards to all incidents that occurred in 2022. Including verbal warnings, written warnings, dogs off leash, alcohol violations, permits revoked. It was pointed out that some of the categories were up from the past year. Officer Kelsey said that there was more consistency this year than in past years as staff has better training and there is a better relationship with the Barnstable Police Department. Bill Carey noted that there were more dogs off leash incidents. Dogs are required to be leashed year round on Sandy Neck. Tom requested that all charts include a moving average to make the report read more clearly. The report also included responses from Emergency Medical Services, EMS. There were six EMS responses in 2022.

Sandy Neck Solutions: Staffing has been increased to help with the demands of incidents on Sandy Neck. Hannah Lawrence has become Assistant Park Manager, Josh Kelleher is an Emergency Medical Technician, and Antonio Mancha has been hired as a permanent part time Natural Resource Officer. Vehicle upgrades including 2 Polaris UTV vehicles that are able to navigate the back trails easier, Yamaha Wave Runner has been purchased to respond to water incidents. Permanent staff will be trained in its use. Emergency medical equipment has been standardized in all vehicles. Patrols have been increased on the public beach and parking lot. Eagle Scout project was completed to build a water station at the campgrounds where water can be stored for tent campers, allowing staff more flexibility to stay on front beach instead of delivering water each time a tent camper went out to the sites. Tire pressure checks have increased on the Access Trail so vehicles don't get stuck.

The report included all the agencies that Sandy Neck interacted with. Drills are held with staff and West Barnstable Fire Department and Barnstable Police Department to ensure proper response to any incidents on Sandy Neck.

2024 looking forward; more staff training.

**\* See attached full report.**

Tom addressed the Board regarding the Board member vacancy created eight months ago when Joe O'Brien from the Recreation Committee resigned. There was discussion as to why it is taking so long to get another person from the Recreation Department. Bill Carey said that we should put it on the minutes each month that we have a vacancy on the Board. Bill Monroe asked if it is a requirement that we have a member of Recreation on the Board. Tom said that the process is totally done outside the Board by the Town Council. Ann Canedy said there is a document stating the requirements and she would find it and pass it along.

**Matters not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:** Tom O'Neill addressed the Board. Would like to put forth the following on the March Board meeting Agenda: Board and Agenda effectiveness and any changes the Board wishes to make. Bill Carey brought up a mission statement which Tom and Ann said is already in place.

**Public Comment:** None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:19 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bragg, Secretary Pro Tem

Attachments:



2022 Sandy Neck  
Safety Solutions - Coj



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