



# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

**SANDY NECK BOARD**  
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## **Sandy Neck Board Meeting** **January 13, 2025**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on January 13, 2025, at 7:00 pm in the Selectmens Conference Room.

Chair:

Thomas O'Neill

Vice Chair:

Peter Sampou

Board Members:

William Carey  
William Monroe  
Maureen Piccione  
Rene King  
Rich French

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, Rich French, Rene King, Bill Carey, (arrived late), and Bill Monroe.

Board Members absent:

Staff: Sandy Neck: Sandy Neck Park Manager, Nina Coleman.

Staff Member absent: Donna Bragg, Operations Supervisor.

Council Liaisons present: Kris Clark

Barnstable Police Liaison:

Public: Paul Berger and Wendy Paquette

Guest Speaker:

**Act on Minutes:** On a motion from Pete Sampou and seconded by Bill Monroe, the Board, by voice and show of hands, voted to approve the December 9, 2024, minutes.

**Notes from the Chair:** Tom O'Neill addressed the Board. Tom asked if the Board Members were receiving emails regarding the Conflict of Interest training. Pete indicated yes. Tom said it appeared that this was the new way of doing the training but was unsure if the emails were getting to the people who needed the training. Rene said she received an email from another committee she was on. Rene said for this year she did not have to do the full training but had to acknowledge a document that was read that makes her current for this year. Rene also said the town was outsourcing this process and it is a state organization that is now handling the training. Kris Clark said it was the State Ethics Commission handling the training now. The state knows who needs the training. Rene said that the full training was every two years and what she received when she logged into the site was an acknowledgement document as she was not due for the training this year. Tom was going to follow up on it to make sure Board Members were not getting spam emails regarding the training. Kris said Bill Cole, Director of Human Resources for the Town of Barnstable, was designated by the state to oversee the process and has provided a link in an email to everyone to log into the training. Tom was looking for clarification and suggested that an email regarding the process be sent out to everyone regarding the process. Kris said she would follow up and get back to Tom.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Staff Report:** Nina Colman addressed the Board. \* See attached report.

- Staff are up to date in processing all 2025 Off-Road-Vehicle Permits that have been submitted. All permits will be mailed to patrons.
- All 2024 Off-Road Vehicle Permits expire at 4pm on January 15, 2025.
- Gatehouse hours continue to be by appointment only.
- Off-Road Vehicle beach is open 8am-4pm daily.
- No campfires allowed.
- Cold stunned turtles rescued at sandy Neck; 11 Kemps Ridley and 4 Loggerheads.
- The current turtle count is 800 turtles rescued Cape-wide.
- There was a request for research conducted at Sandy Neck and Nina showed the slide which may be viewed in the attachment found at the end of the minutes. Kris asked if there was a way for the town to get copies of the research reports once the research was completed. Nina said with research permits they are required to provide us with their information. Kris said that for all the research being done, the town should be the beneficiary of that knowledge. Nina agreed. Bill Carey asked where the information was kept. Nina said digitally. Bill asked how the public may access the report(s), and Nina explained there was no logical way to access the research information for the public.

**Old Business:**

- **Conservation and beach erosion along our coastlines.** None.
- **Economic sustainability.**
- **Public outreach and public use & participation.** None.
- **Sandy Neck Beach Reconfiguration Project Update.** Nina addressed the Board. Nina is getting ready to do a site plan review for the project and has prepared some materials she wanted to share with the Board. She wanted to let the Board know where we are at in securing permits, and where we are at with outreach. We have already secured our Massachusetts Environmental Policy Act, (MEPA), review. We have received Orders of Conditions from the Conservation Commission, and we have met all our requirements for the archeological study. We have received a 2025 Coastal Resiliency Grant from Coastal Zone Management, (CZM), for ninety thousand dollars to finish up the odds and ends to get this project ready to publish for contractors to bid on the project. So, what are we working on over the winter? Old Kings Highway permits, which we did last Wednesday and there were two permits approved. Old Kings Highway loved the project and appreciated the efforts being made to make sure the project was aesthetically pleasing and functional. We have applied to the Board of Health for a review to move the Gatehouse and septic. We have engaged with the Natural Heritage Endangered Species Program to obtain a Conservation Management Plan. The plan is mostly regarding Spadefoot Toads. We have already submitted a draft and when we get their feedback, we will incorporate that and then submit a final submission. After that they get thirty or sixty days to review. Since we have been negotiating throughout the process regarding all the minimalization strategies of how we minimize and mitigate impact on the Spadefoot Toads, we are moving closer with the plan. And finally, our storm water management needs to be reviewed by the town Department of Public Works, (DPW). We are looking at a late winter Request for Proposal, (RFP) being published. We need to have all those permits secured prior to the RFP. Regarding outreach, which is a requirement for the Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness, (MVP), grant, we have a head start Diamond Back Terrapin at Hyannis West Elementary School and are doing turtle talks at that school. Innovation School also has a terrapin, and we will be doing turtle talks there as well. We have scheduled a spring field trip with all third graders at Hyannis West, which will be in May. We have a presentation that has been created with more technical aspects of the Coastal Resiliency Project, which Assistant Park Manager, Ann Marie Luppino will be presenting to Cape Cod Tech in January and Nina and Ann Marie will be presenting to Cape Cod Community College in March 2025. There is some curriculum being drafted by the consultant regarding turtle life cycles which is part of the MVP grant. They are also going to put out a survey for families

asking what some barriers are to accessing beaches. Questions as to what it is that keep families from going to the beach. The survey will be out sometime this winter. Tom asked if there was a project manager for the financial part of the project. Nina said Mark Milne or his assistant. Bill Carey wanted to know when we would know the construction costs. Tom said when we get the bids.

**New Business:** The Sandy Neck Safety Solutions Report that was scheduled for January has been postponed until the February 10, 2025, Board Meeting.

**Matters not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:** None.

**Public Comment:** None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bragg, Operations Supervisor, Sandy Neck

Attachments:



January 13th – Staff  
Report.pptx