



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

SANDY NECK BOARD

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Sandy Neck Board Meeting

April 9, 2007

Chairman:

Richards French

Vice Chairman:

William Carey

Board Members:

Barbara Bell
Holly Heaslip
Nate King
Peter Sampou

Council Liaison:

Henry Farnham

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on April 9, 2007 at the Marine and Environmental Affairs Division Building at 1189 Phinney's Lane, Centerville, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by Chairman Rich French.

Roll Call:

- *Board Members present:* Richards French, Barbara Bell, Holly Heaslip, Nate King, Peter Sampou, and William Carey.
- *Council Liaison:* Hank Farnham.
- *Staff:* Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- *Public:* Steve Heslinga, Doug Moquin, Cathy Fillman, and Wendy Bowles.

Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Nate King and seconded by Barbara Bell, the Sandy Neck Board voted unanimously to approve the March 12th minutes as presented.

Correspondence:

Rich French reported:

- He wrote to Town Attorney Robert Smith re: the Winders Cottage. Attorney Smith sees no legal issue with the Board looking into the prospect of fixing up the Winders Cottage. Must come up with a direction. More on this later.
- The "Save the Date Letter" went out to the cottagers and the property owners inviting them to the beach clean-up on April 29th. Meet at 9 am. Refreshments will be served by MBBA. Two Boy Scout troops will also be helping with the clean up.
- Note from Frank Schlegel. The numbering is complete. All cottages now have a new number. This is because of the enhanced 911 system. New numbers were assigned and when cottagers are notified they must change the numbers on the cottages. Map will have numbers and photos.

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman reported:

- The gatehouse is now open from 9 am to 4 pm daily.
- Sales of 2007 permits are going well. People are happy that the \$4 daily fee has been eliminated.
- Staffing is almost complete. 85% of last year's staff is returning.
- New gatehouse roof completed. Painting of gatehouse will be done in May. Inside painting being done now.
- Truck donated by police. Their old T9 diesel truck. Now have two trucks to use on Sandy Neck.
- The bombing range/firing site soil and water testing was done. Waiting for results.
- The plovers back. Too early to report on their activities.

Old Business:

Winders Cottage

Rich French: In my [Rich's] opinion - this cottage is salvageable. What is the Board's feelings?

Pete Sampou: From a management standpoint, he does not think this is a good idea. Not going to be easy time at ConComm.

Holly Heaslip: Spoke with Pat Anderson. She would not support a demolition or removal of the cottage. As long as ¼ of the structure is standing above the flood plain, it can be resurrected. She has photos if anyone wants them.

Nina Coleman: There may be a septic – Title V issue. Grey water is also a concern.

Nate King: There is some form of a structure there and would like to see it rebuilt. There must be someone out there that wants to do this. They would have to adhere to stringent regulations (like toilets and grey water). But does not want the Park Manager to be burdened with the responsibility of being a landlord of the property.

Barbara Bell: Agrees with Nate's statements.

Rich French: The town has an obligation to this property. It is a town owned building on a town owned piece of property. Yes, the town has allowed this to happen but it can not continue. There are people who want to put the effort into this property. The property could be leased and the money would come back to Sandy Neck.

Pete Sampou: Sandy Neck is an enterprise account but the Board's primary responsibility is to make sure the resources are maintained for all. This is not a good idea.

Nate King: We are also charged with the recreation use on the area.

Bill Carey: Must balance all interests. There are people willing to undertake this project. The interest is there.

Pete Sampou: But this fix up project would only benefit a private individual.

Bill Carey: Perhaps the structure/mission of the Board has changed since Sandy Neck became an enterprise account.

Hank Farnham: Still advisory but self sufficient in funding only. The enterprise account only makes you [The Sandy Neck Board] independent with regard to spending and income. Budgetary items only. Everything else is in the hands of the Town Manager and the Park Manager.

Nate King: We should look for innovative ideas for funding and still balance all the uses of Sandy Neck.

Rich French: Letting this fall down is not what he wants. This can be done with an RFP by any individual(s) willing to undertake the project. We need to at least try.

A **motion** was made by Nate King and seconded by Bill Carey that the Sandy Neck Board look into the possibility of rehabilitating/repairing the Winders Cottage through an RFP [Request for Proposal]. A committee will be formed to develop the guidelines for this RFP. The committee will bring these recommendations back to this Board for review. **Vote** was four in favor (Nate King, Bill Carey, Barbara Bell, and Rich French) and two opposed (Pete Sampou and Holly Heaslip). **Motion carried.** Committee members are Nate King, Barbara Bell and Rich French.

Rich French will contact Dave Anthony [Chief Purchasing Agent] and/or Johanna Boucher [Purchasing Agent] for ideas/help.

Nickerson Cottage

Nina Coleman: The move was successful. Great job. No damage to the cottage or the trail. Tomorrow she and the NROs are going out to clean up the site and cap the well. Total move cost was \$9500. The Nature Conservancy donated \$5,000.

Doug Moquin: Wonderful job. Key was the mover had the right equipment. Has pictures of the move if anyone wants them.

The Halfway House

Rich French: The new stove is in and chimney work is done. The name board is up – says “Halfway House”. The west wing has been cleaned out. Only work on the west end will be window replacement. On the east end, doing trim work, walkway repair. Walkway and retaining walls to be completed soon. Boy Scouts helping. Project was already approved by Conservation.

Nina Coleman: Keeping Conservation informed of all work as it progresses along.

New Member Replace Progress

Rich French: One individual has put in an application. The Town Council Appointment Committee is reviewing their information/background. This appointment will be a member “at large”. Hopefully, the Board will hear soon.

Barnstable Dredge

Bill Carey: What is the status of the dredge project?

Rich French: Last month, Bob Burgmann told him the work would be done in October. However, since then there has been an appeal before DEP and the entire project is now on hold.

Pete Sampou: Will be meeting with DEP in the next few days. Does not believe the dredge material is compatible. The grain size is of concern. May not be following the Order of Conditions.

Steve Heslinga (speaking as President of the Sandy Neck Cottagers Association): Re: the dredging project in Millway. He went to informational hearing and spoke to Marsha? of Vine Associates and she said that the appeal was inappropriate and disputes the information in the appeal.

Pete Sampou: Originally he thought that too. Has since gone out and made a closer examination around the bay and now feels there is a bigger problem. It must be reviewed again and the entire project needs to come back to ConComm and other Town agencies.

Rich French: The Board supports the project only if the soil is compatible. The soil needs to be clean.

Pete Sampou: Will report back next month with any update(s).

New Business:

Beach Clean-Up

Rich French: Beach clean-up is April 29th. Board members should meet at am with their "Sandy Neck Board T-Shirts" on. Clean up to be on the trails, front beach, and parking lot.

Osprey Nests

Nate King: What is the status of placing a new osprey stand up again this year? One placed last year.

Nina Coleman: She will put the word out to the Boy Scouts. Perhaps someone would like to do this as part of their eagle project.

Old Christmas Trees

Nate King: Gave an article from the Army Corp of Engineers to Nina regarding (re)planting old Christmas Trees.

Nina Coleman: Not really a good idea for Sandy Neck. The trees are not compatible with the habitat on the beach especially the plovers. The trees may be okay for the parking lot but not the front beach. She will talk to the State about it.

Marsh Trail

Bill Carey: What is the status of the on-going maintenance of the marsh trail?

Nina Coleman: Huge maintenance project in 2005. Built up the trail near the Nickerson Cottage. Must rent equipment. Funds are not there now. Money needed for other projects right now. Will look into this next budget year.

Public Comment:

Cathy Fillman addressed the Board. Beach clean-up is on Sunday, April 29th. MBBA will provide refreshments. MBBA members will help wherever needed - beach cleaning, fencing, hole digging...whatever. Just let them know.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem