



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE SANDY NECK BOARD

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Sandy Neck Board Meeting August 11, 2014

Chairman:

Richards French

Vice Chairman:

William Carey

Board Members:

Lynn Heslinga
Nate King
George Muhlebach
Tom O'Neill
Peter Sampou

Council Liaisons:

Ann Canedy
Phil Wallace

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on August 11, 2014 at the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Chairman Rich French.

Roll Call:

- Board Members present: George Muhlebach, Tom O'Neil, Bill Carey, and Rich French. Nate King arrived late.
- Board Member absent: Pete Sampou and Lynne Heslinga.
- Staff: Chris Nappi, Sandy Neck Natural Resource Officer and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Council Liaisons present: Phil Wallace and Ann Canedy.
- Public: Wendy Paquette.

Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Bill Carey and seconded by Tom O'Neil, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the July minutes as printed.

Correspondence:

- none.

Staff Report:

Christopher Nappi addressed the Board:

- The beach is currently open just over 2 miles (0.6 miles past Trail 2).
- Beach will fully open as soon as possible. It will open under 25 days – can not give exact date.
- 42 plover chicks successfully fledged this year. Big increase over past two years - mostly because there were no spring storms. A lot of tern chick activity this year.
- Total of 152 nests of Diamondback Terrapins which is a large increase over last year. Expect hatchlings within the next week or so.
- Speed and not airing down are the big concerns – staff deals with problems when they come up.

This is the completed new walkway at Sandy Neck. Beautiful views of Sandy Neck, marsh, dunes and Cape Cod Bay. It has already been used by many visitors.



Old Business:***Continuation of the Town of Sandwich fee discussion.******Bill Carey reported:***

Bill Carey, along with Rich French, met with Town Manager Tom Lynch, Assistant Town Manager Mark Ells, Finance Director Mark Milne, and Community Services Director Lynne Poyant on Monday July 14th. The discussion revolved around “fairness” in the fee structure. The Town of Sandwich pays the Town of Barnstable \$43,000+/- and Barnstable - in turn - honors Sandwich’s beach stickers on Bodfish Beach plus Sandwich Residents get a reduced rate for their ORV stickers. But that money does not cover their portion of the capital expenditures at Sandy Neck. Sandy Neck is an enterprise account and must pay for everything and is not supported by Town of Barnstable general funds. They talked about establishing a “rainy day fund”.

There was a discussion among the Board Members. These are some highlights:

- Money is needed for replenishing the dunes and funds need to be set aside for this project.
- Users of the beach should pay to use the beach - not the entire Town of Sandwich.
- We are trying to work with Sandwich.
- Should we form a “subcommittee” that would talk to the Sandwich Recreation Department? Or talk directly to the Sandwich Town Manager? Do we have that authority? Should this subcommittee meet and report back to the Town Manager.
- No other town on Cape Cod gets a reduced rate nor is their town sticker honored at Sandy Neck.
- Should there only be resident and non resident stickers.
- Barnstable “owns” Sandy Neck and we have to be good stewards of the beach.
- Do we have updated figures about Sandwich Users? Would we lose money?
- Rich French will continue to keep in contact with Town Manager Lynch.

New Business:***Election of Sandy Neck Board Officers***

- On a **motion** by Bill Carey and seconded by Tom O’Neil, the Sandy Neck Board unanimously voted to defer the election of officers until the next meeting in view of the fact that there are two members absent this evening.

Public Comment:

- Wendy Paquette asked why the beach is still closed. Chris Nappi explained that there are unfledged chicks and terns. All birds have hatched – they just need to fledge. Hopefully it will open by Labor Day.

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:39 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem