

TOWN OF BARNSTABLE SANDY NECK BOARD

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Sandy Neck Board Meeting November 17, 2014

Chairman:
Richards French

Vice Chairman:
Thomas O'Neill

Board Members:
William Carey
Lynn Heslinga
Nate King
George Muhlebach
Peter Sampou

Council Liaisons:
Ann Canedy
Phil Wallace

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on November 17, 2014 at the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Rich French.

Disclosure:

There was an error in the original posting for this meeting and the updated agenda was not clocked-in on time and did not meet the open meeting law deadline. Therefore, this is an informational meeting only and no votes will be taken this evening.

Roll Call:

- Board Members present: Lynn Heslinga, Pete Sampou, Bill Carey, George Muhlebach, Tom O'Neill and Rich French.
- Board Members absent: Nate King.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager; and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Council Liaisons present: Ann Canedy and Phil Wallace.
- Public: Wendy Paquette, Diane Lomba, and Russ Keyes.

Act on Minutes:

- Postponed until December meeting. NOTE: Tom O'Neill would like the minutes to reflect a request for the fee discussion to take place earlier next year.

Correspondence:

- none.

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman addressed the Board:

- The Gatehouse hours are Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 9:00 am to 4:00pm or call for an appointment.
- This is still pheasant season – until the Saturday after Thanksgiving. There is no hunting allowed on the front beach and there is no hunting allowed on Sundays.
- No incidents to report since the last meeting.
- There have been two snowy owls sited at Sandy Neck. Too early to tell if it will be another “banner year”.
- No Ridley Sea Turtle strandings on Sandy Neck this year – but staff is on high alert. If you see a turtle on any town beach you can call MEA/Natural Resources (508-790-6272) or Animal Control (508-790-6274) or the gatehouse (508-362-6300). Leave a message – staff is on duty during the weekends. The turtles are usually found after a high wind storm in the rack line/seaweed. Mark the area so they can find the animal. But do not move it. They must be handled carefully and rehabilitated by the professionals.
- Staff rescued a loon that was tangled in fishing gear.
- Staff is looking into being able to accept credit cards especially for the sale of merchandise. Check out the website – merchandise is on sale!

First Year Juvenile Snowy Owl



Old Business:

Continuation of the Town of Sandwich fee discussion:

Nothing new to discuss at this time.

Old Business:

Update on dune nourishment project:

Nina Coleman reviewed the dune nourishment project. There have been two storms (so far this year). Both with high winds out of the north.



This picture is from October 22nd. On the left of the picture is the high dune with a conduit of water to the right. Water is coming in the swale and sending water to the tow of the dune. (We did not lose handicapped ramp).



This picture is from November 2nd looking east. You can see at the tow of the dune shows the conduit. The material in front – up to the grass – is the “sacrificial sand.” There is about 1/3 of the sand left from what was placed there last year.

This picture is from the parking lot looking down at the beach. The left shows the natural grass line with a cracking on the top. For integrity reasons, this area is “coned off” so no vehicles can park there.



The percentage of sand that was lost in the past year is shown in detail on attachment #1 at the end of these minutes entitled **Sandy Neck Parking Lot Dune Monitoring**. The upper lot has lost the highest amount of sand which is where the septic system is located.

Money was taken from the Sandy Neck operating budget to work on this project immediately. If the project funds are approved by Town Council on November 20th, 2014, the money will be replaced with money from the Sandy Neck surplus funds. The bid was awarded to *Robert B. Our, Co.* who will place 4,000 cubic yards of sand back on the beach at a cost of \$86,000.

Phase II of this project will be a more permanent “softscape” solutions such as sand bags that could last 5 to 7 years. The design and permitting for this project was awarded to CLE Engineering, Inc., for approximately \$30,000. Construction of Phase II could cost as much as \$400,000 and will be awarded to a company via an RFP process. At some point, CLE could come to a Sandy Neck Board meeting to discuss the project and present different “softscape” erosion control applications. Sampou asked if it would be possible to “fill in” the low swale area with stone in order to reduce the wave action to the dune.

Last month Rich French wrote a letter to CPC asking to be placed on the next agenda so he could formally request \$200,000 from CPC for Sandy Neck. However the request must go through the Town Manager first. That was done and now he is waiting for more information.

Also, Nina Coleman has also applied for CZM grant money. She has also looked into Biomimicry.

Please note: sand can only be replaced in the fall. Money could be secured earlier as a line item [\$100,000] but nothing can be done until the fall because of plover nesting issues. But next year, we will be into the big Phase II project.

Old Business:

ConComm annual report – *The entire report is attachment #2 at the end of these minutes.*

Some highlights:

- In 2014 plovers did better.
- Diamondback Terrapin Turtles numbers increased again this year.
- Because of the beautiful weather, revenue is up this year. Dune fees are up again this year. More ORV permits were sold, too. Number of day trippers increased – a lot of vehicles on the beach.
- The use of the beach has doubled over the past few years and one more seasonal is needed for next year.

Parking lot information – *The entire report is attachment #3 at the end of these minutes.*

Some highlights:

- Number of Barnstable and Sandwich parking totals has increased. The number of daily trip to the Bodfish Public beach for Barnstable v. Sandwich sticker holders is about the same all season.
- Last year, Sandy Neck got \$58,965 from Barnstable Sticker Sales and \$42,654 from the Town of Sandwich.
- Daily hang tags sold (\$15/\$20) increased in number to over \$7,000.

The Bodfish Beach (public beach) closes at 3:30 pm which is in line with all the other Town Beaches. There was a question as to whether or not Sandy Neck Beach Park could collect money/stay open longer since Sandy Neck is unique and has more to offer than other Town Beaches.

NOTE:

A new subcommittee was formed to look into new revenue options. Tom O'Neill and Lynne Heslinga will look into this and report back to the Board in March or April. They will work with Nina Coleman and she will ask Mark Milne for more information if needed.

New Business:

2015 meeting dates

January 12, February 09, March 09, April 13, May 11, June 08, July 13, August 10, September 14, October 19, November 16, and December 14, 2015.

These dates will be voted on next month.

Public Comment:

- Wendy Paquette asked why this ConComm information was not provided sooner – prior to the fee discussion. She noted that day tripper use increased and again questioned why their rates increase this year.

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:59pm.

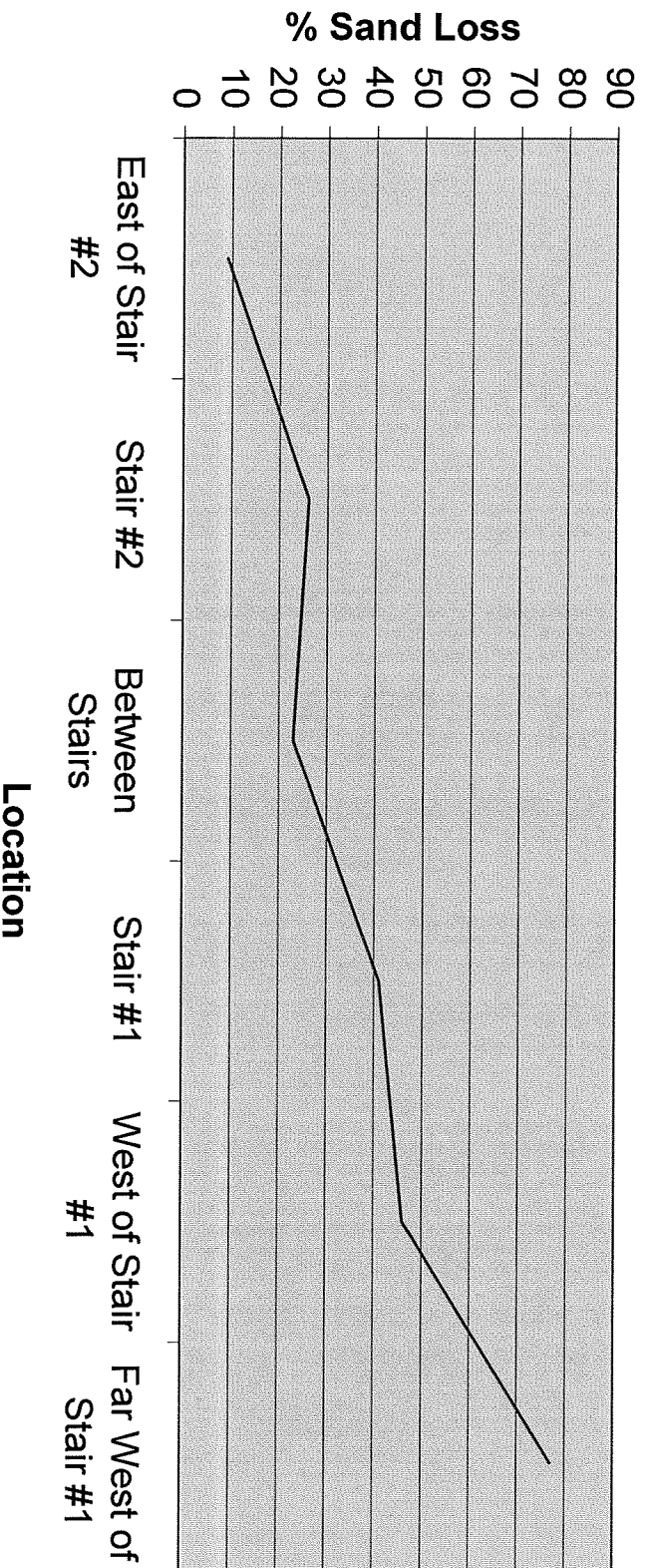
Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem

Sandy Neck Parking Lot Dune Monitoring

Location	1/18/2014	3/26/2014	9/5/2014	11/4/2014	% Dune Loss from 12/18/2013 to 11/4/2014
Distance (ft) from original edge of primary dune to new edge of dune					
East of Stair #2	no measurement	10.3	9.7	9.4	9
Stair #2	16.5	14.1	14	12.2	26
Between Stairs	18	14.5	14.5	13.9	23
Stair #1	21.1	17.75	17.5	12.5	41
West of Stair #1	22.5	19.8	14.4	12.2	46
Far West of Stair #1	24	21	11.9	5.6	77
avg linear % loss over entire project					37%

Percentage of Dune Loss from 1/18/2014 to 11/4/2014



2014 Sandy Neck Report
Submitted by: Nina Z. Coleman

Piping Plover

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Total Pairs (Total Count)	38	44	40	27	34
Number of Eggs	142	189	197	169	115
Eggs Hatched	93	80	14	36	70
<i>Chicks Fledged</i>	<i>60</i>	<i>57</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>16</i>	<i>42</i>

Plover Habitat Protection

Over six (6⁺) miles of symbolic fencing installed and 2 wire nest exclosures installed.

Diamondback Terrapin

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
# of Nests Head Started	6	6	5	4	5
# of Nests Capped	115	112	110	82	131

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of Nests	122	116	110	87	153
Number of Nests Predated	1	4	1	4	11
<i>Potentially Hatched Nests</i>	<i>121</i>	<i>112</i>	<i>109</i>	<i>83</i>	<i>142</i>

Terns:

	2011	2012	2013	2014
Least Terns (pairs)	180	75	79	223
Common Tern (pairs)	0	0	0	0

Wetland Restoration:

44 isolated freshwater wetlands treated
Approximately 4 acres of saltmarsh treated

*Restoration refers to application of herbicides on *Phragmites australis* and mechanical removal of *Lythrum salicaria* and *Panicum spp.*

Enforcement:

	2011	2012	2013	2014
<i>Citations</i>	29	118	62	61
<i>Written Warning</i>	2	21	3	5
<i>Permits Revoked</i>	11	17	11	13
<i>"No Trespass" Issued</i>	1	4	2	0

2014 Sandy Neck Report
Submitted by: Nina Z. Coleman

Hunting

Pheasant Hunt: 10/18-11/29 (estimated total of 250-275 pheasant stocked)

Revenue (fiscal year-Munis)

	FY10	FY11	FY12	FY13	FY14
Dune Fees (ORV)	\$386,512	\$379,827	\$549,593	\$431,782	\$541,363
Beach Parking	\$97,230	\$109,590	\$130,050	\$123,634	\$113,336
Sandwich Revenue	\$38,633	\$39,599	\$40,589	\$41,605	\$42,654
Beach Concession	\$8,238	\$14,499	\$13,711	\$15,996	\$10,500
Cottage Lease Fees	\$41,464	\$35,343	\$41,522	\$43,115	\$37,435
Parking Stickers	\$30,666	\$31,146	\$31,321	\$31,095	\$58,965
Merchandise	\$15,584	\$16,783	\$18,390	\$16,659	\$24,168
Miscellaneous	\$1,205	\$1,832	\$671	\$1,057	\$1,130
Earnings on Investments	\$2,421	\$4,698	\$7,848	\$9,643	\$11,466
Sale of Bond	0	0	\$5,629	0	0
Total Revenue	\$622,155	\$633,317	\$839,324	\$714,586	\$841,017

Off Road Vehicle Permits (calendar year Jan.-Oct.)

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Barnstable Resident	1,410	1,430	1,504	1,399	1,566
Sandwich Resident	774	826	926	863	932
Non Resident	1,073	1,160	1,273	1,145	1,389
Property Owner	124	122	142	143	151
Total # ORV permits	3,381	3,538	3,845	3,550	4038

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Number of Camping Nights	7,023	7,373	7,911	5,279	5,847
Number of Day Trips	14,105	12,845	11,081	12,454	17,056
Number of Trips Cottages	566	372	404	610	696
Total # of Vehicle Trips	21,694	20,590	19,396	18,343	23,599

Escorts

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
June	17	15	23	0	47	30
July	80	26	41	14	74	51
August	17	27	18	24	7	37
September	0	1	0	0	0	0
Total	114	69	82	38	128	118

Number of vehicles parking at Sandy Neck during business hours.

	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Sandwich	4,009	5,384	5,068	4,788	4,669*	4,638*	4,563*	4,808
Barnstable	4,143	5,244	5,011	4,897	4,754*	4,673*	4,382*	4,690
Day Tags	5,613	6,307	6,182	7,460	6,947	7,305	6,502	7,220

* estimated in 2011, 2012 & 2013

Business hours = 8AM-3:30PM on Saturdays, Sundays and holidays only from Memorial Day until the third weekend in June and then everyday from the third weekend in June until Labor Day.

