



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

SANDY NECK BOARD
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Sandy Neck Board Meeting **October 21, 2024**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on October 21, 2024, at 7:00 pm in the Selectmen's 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, Bill Carey, Maureen Piccione, Rene King, and Rich French.

Board Members absent: Bill Monroe.

Staff: Sandy Neck Park Manager, Nina Coleman.

Staff Member absent: Operations Supervisor, Donna Bragg.

Council Liaisons present: Kris Clark.

Barnstable Police Liaison:

Public: Wendy Paquette.

Guest Speaker:

Act on Minutes: Bill Carey addressed the Board. He had comments and questions regarding the vote on the Motion that is to be sent to the Town Council. This vote was passed unanimously on October 9, 2024. Bill wanted to change some of the language. After Board discussion, the Board concluded the language was correct as stated in the Motion on October 9, 2024.

On a motion from Rene King and seconded by Pete Sampou, the Board voted unanimously to accept the October 9, 2024, Board Meeting Minutes as written.

Notes from the Chair: None.

Correspondence: None.

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

- Gatehouse hours 9am-9pm through October 31, 2024, daily.
- Starting November 1, 2024, Gatehouse is by appointment only.
- Off-Road Beach Vehicle hours are 8am-10pm through October 31, 2024.
- Starting November 1, 2024, Off-Road Beach Vehicle hours are 8am-4pm.
- Through October 31, 2024, campfires are allowed to start at sunset.
- NO campfires allowed beginning November 1, 2024.
- The speed limit on the Off-Road Vehicle Beach is 15mph.
- Sandy Neck Merchandise is available at the Gatehouse.
- Bathhouse is closed for the season. Two portable toilets, one handicap accessible, are available for patrons.
- All portable toilets have been removed from the Off-Road Vehicle beach.
- Fall hunting season has started. All hunters must sign in at the Gatehouse.
- Pheasant stocking begins October 18, 2024. Reminder that Sunday is a no hunt day.
- October events:
- October 14th, 10am-Noon, Sandy Neck Fall Hike.
- October 26th, 3pm-5pm, Halloween “Trunk or Treat”, is being held at Sandy Neck in the lower parking lot. Hosted by Sandy Neck and the West Barnstable Fire Department.
- CoastSweep was held in September. There was a great turnout. Thanks to Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association and all the volunteers that joined us in cleaning the beach.
- Eagle Scout projects for Sandy Neck. Three informational kiosks were built and installed throughout the park. An Osprey informational kiosk was installed at the overlook in the upper parking lot for visitors to learn about our Ospreys.
- Congratulations to Ryan Henry. Ann Marie Luppino has moved into the Assistant Park Manager position. Ryan was working in the Shellfish department and has been hired as a Natural Resource Officer for Sandy Neck.
- Draft of the Future Land Use Map for Barnstable. Public comment regarding draft ends October 23, 2024. This information was sent out to all the Board Members in the Town of Barnstable. Tom said this is a proposed plan for the entire Town of Barnstable and not specific to Sandy Neck. Kris Clark said the proposed changes were put out to the public for comments regarding activity centers in the town. Nina attended a meeting about nine months ago as Director of Natural Resources and outlined the Departments goal for the next ten years with the project at Sandy Neck being at the top of the list.

Old Business:

- **Conservation and beach erosion along our coastlines.** None.
- **Economic sustainability.** Tom addressed the Board. He has asked Maureen Piccione to take the lead on the economic sustainability part for the Board and come up with some ideas to further revenue for Sandy Neck. Maureen has graciously accepted and will be presenting her ideas soon. Tom and Rene spoke about some of the different out-of-the-box ways to increase revenue.
- **Public outreach and public use & participation.** Tom addressed the Board and said he would like to have the Eagle Scouts back after the completion of their projects to update the Board.
- **Sandy Neck Beach Reconfiguration Project Update.** *Taken out of order. Nina addressed the Board. Coastal Zone Management, (CZM), for fiscal year 2025, has awarded Sandy Neck grant money in the amount of \$90,000. The acceptance of this grant is on the Agenda for the Town Council Meeting, to be held on Thursday, October 24th. This grant will be used, based on 100% design, for the odds and ends that need to be completed before getting a project contractor. There was a \$10,000 match from Sandy Neck Reserves included. This will show the Town Council that each year we ask for a CZM grant it has been awarded. Fiscal year 2026

will be the big ask from CZM for the project. Nina said the maximum for Fiscal Year 2026 is \$2,000,000 we could receive from CZM.

- **Sandy Neck Fee Discussion. *See attached report.** Tom addressed the Board and stated that everyone had an opportunity to look at the fees that were presented by Nina at the last meeting and it was time for a discussion and vote. He then turned the discussion over to Nina. Nina Coleman addressed the Board. Nina put the proposal that was discussed at the last meeting up on the screen.
- **Proposed fee changes:** All fees not included here would remain the same.
- Annual Resident ORV Permit from \$95 to **\$100.**
- Annual Non-Resident ORV Permit from \$220 to **\$250.**
- Annual Cottage Owner Permit from \$45 to **\$50.**
- Annual ORV Trailer Permit from \$40 to **\$45.**
- Fall Resident ORV Permit from \$50 to **\$60.**
- Fall Non-Resident ORV Permit from \$100 to **\$120.**
- Fall Cottage Owner Permit from \$15 to **\$20.**
- Winter Resident ORV Permit from \$20 to **\$25.**
- Winter Non-Resident ORV Permit from \$40 to **\$50.**
- Winter Cottage Owner Permit **\$15.**
- Overnight Camping Resident Slide-On, per night \$11 to **\$12.**
- Overnight Camping Non-Resident Slide-On, per night \$22 to **\$24**
- Overnight Camping Resident RV, per night \$15 to **\$16.**
- Overnight Camping Non-Resident RV, per night \$30 to **\$32.**
- Overnight Camping Chase, per night \$6 to **\$7.**
- Tent Camping per site \$20 to **\$30.**
- Horse Permit per ride \$20 to **\$25.**

Nina said there was some discussion about the Overnight Camping fees, and some felt they should go up more. After discussing this with Staff, it was decided to go up in small increments and look at the Overnight Camping Fees every other year. Nina and Staff also looked over at what other Off-Road Vehicle Beaches are charging for Overnight Camping. She went over the other beaches fees. Pushing our price increases for Overnight Camping starts to bring us up to over what other beaches charge. And as a reminder, Sandy Neck has been consistently open for Overnight Camping in the summer where other beaches have been restricted due to closures.

Bill Carey asked about the \$60 rescue fee for tent campers, which was not subject to change at this time. Nina explained that if there is an emergency there is no fee. If it is a situation where they just don't want to walk back, they could possibly be charged \$60 per person. Bill Carey also asked about the campfire permit, again the fee is not being raised this year. Bill asked about the fee and the possibility of changing the fee. He was speaking about Mrs. Lamb who spoke to the Board last month. The Board agreed that we will keep the fee as it is. Bill asked about the Halfway House and fees waived for Barnstable Schools. Nina explained that it has always been that way for Barnstable but not schools outside of Barnstable. The conversation turned to the Halfway House and usage by groups. Rene said that for recreation, there is always a fund for hardship cases and perhaps Sandy Neck can do the same. Nina said we already do that. She said the barrier for use is partially because of how remote it is and how rustic it is. Nina said that due to those conditions, it is not for everyone. Nina said she is getting more engaged and will be on the Barnstable School Environmental Technologies Advisory Board. Ann Marie Luppino is on the Advisory Board for Upper Cape Tech. We are trying to engage more. There is no money to be made there but it could result in more use of the Halfway House. Rene said that the Town Of Barnstable Youth Commissioners under George Noonan is an extremely impressive group that should be spoken to about the Halfway House.

Tom asked for a motion to approve the new fee schedule to be sent to the Town Manager. Pete Sampou made the motion. Rich French seconded. The Board voted by voice and show of hands to unanimously approve the new fee schedule.

New Business:

- **Discussion on Regulation Changes. *Taken out of order.** Nina addressed the Board. Nina and Staff have spoken about the regulations and as there is not a lot to change, would prefer deferring to next year. The Board agreed.

Matters not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair: None.

Public Comment: None.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bragg, Secretary Pro Tem

Attachments:



2025 SNK Proposed Fees.pdf



October 21st meeting.pptx



ORV Beach Pricing Matrix 2024.pptx