

# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE SANDY NECK BOARD

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## Sandy Neck Board Meeting November 18, 2019

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on November 18, 2019 in the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Chairman Tom O'Neill.

Chairman:  
Thomas O'Neill

ViceChairman:  
Peter Sampou

BoardMembers:  
Ann Canedy  
William Carey  
Nate King  
William Monroe  
Hank Farnham

CouncilLiaison:

### Roll Call:

- Board Members present: Tom O'Neill, Pete Sampou, Bill Carey, Ann Canedy, Nate King, Hank Farnham, and Bill Monroe.
- Board Member absent: none.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Park Manager.
- Staff Member absent: Donna Bragg, Operations Supervisor.
- Council Liaisons present: None
- Council Liaisons absent:
- Public: Town Manager Mark Ells, Wendy Paquette, Diane Lomba, Kylie Palomba, Rich French and Paul Berger.
- Tom O'Neill addressed the Board welcoming Hank Farnham as the new Board member.

### Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Bill Monroe and seconded by Ann Canedy, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the October 21, 2019 minutes as printed.

### Public Comment:

- Wendy Paquette addressed the Board congratulating Hank Farnham to the Board.

### Correspondence:

- Tom O'Neill emailed Town Manager Mark Ells regarding the topics for discussion including coastal resiliency and utilization of the beach.

### Staff Report:

*Nina Coleman addressed the Board:*

- To date there have been 13 cold stunned turtles taken off beach. Kemps Ridges. Triage Set up in garage and turtles were brought in by Sandwich and Bourne. All in good shape due to the warm weather. Turtle rescue information can be found online on Town Facebook page.
- Gatehouse is open weekends only.
- .ORV hours 8a m – 4 pm. All vehicles must be off the beach and exit park by 4 pm.
- No campfires allowed.
- Pheasant hunt is ongoing and the deer archery hunt required meeting is November 20, 2019. In order to participate, hunter(s) must attend the meeting.
- Some erosion due to storm and north winds. Some sand in front of lower parking lot has been lost.

## **Old Business:**

- Discussion and vote on proposed regulations. On a motion from Bill Monroe and seconded by Pete Sampou. Motion carried with one no vote and one abstention.

## **New Subcommittees:**

### **1. Conservation and Beach Erosion Along Our Coastlines:**

- Vice Chairman Pete Sampou will take the initiative to provide all new Town Council members as well as new Board Member Hank Farnham with the Coastal Resiliency documents for Sandy Neck.

### **2. Economic Sustainability:**

## **Public Outreach and Public Use & Participation:**

- Bill Monroe addressed the Board. There is a young man interested in Sandy Neck project for his leadership Eagle Scout service. Bill has been in touch with NRO Sean Kortis regarding potential projects and timeframe.  
Bill Monroe addressed the Board regarding an unsafe and derelict cottage on the Marsh Trail. Cottage is identified as the Atwood Cottage #104. Discussion regarding legal ownership, appropriate action for safety reasons, and if the cottage was on the Historic Register. At this time, Town Manager Mark Ells entered the meeting and was asked for assistance in determination of disposition of the property. Town Manager Mark Ells stated ownership rights must be clear and he will put in a request for information and get back to the Board.

## **New Business:**

- Tom O'Neill addressed the Board regarding email he had sent to Town Manager Mark Ells prior to
- Town Manager Mark Ells addressed the Board highlighting the important issues. Many sensitive resources that must be protected with Sandy Neck being one of them. Safety and compliance top two concerns regarding any plans and looking at all options. The Town Manager stated that the Town Council was completely engaged regarding Coastal Resiliency. Questions and discussion followed regarding various potential solutions. The Town Manager then spoke about design and permitting for the Gatehouse project and Access project and timeline. The Town Manager would like to bring the DPW for January Board meeting to discuss the two projects.
- Town Manager Mark Ells spoke regarding beach usage stating that there must be a balance between beach use and conservation regarding the protected species. Nina Coleman addressed the Board regarding the Habitat Conservation Plan that Sandy Neck is a participant of. Nina and NRO Sean Kortis recently attended a stakeholder meeting and said that Sandy Neck is coming up on its' renewal period is coming up and she intends to ask for 4 acres to discourage birds while now there is a two acre restriction. With the HCP the Plovers have been very successful on Sandy Neck. Questions and discussions followed regarding guidance from the town as well as communication.
- Nina Coleman addressed the Board regarding the 2019 Conservation Commission report as part of the Orders of Conditions to operate an off road vehicle beach. **See attached.** Discussion and questions followed.

**Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:** none

**Public Comment:**

- Diane Lomba asked about the RFID program and how it worked out this year. Nina Coleman responded that there had been some issues and that staff was working on solutions and the project will be more accurate this upcoming season.

**Adjournment:**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bragg, Secretary Pro Tem

Attachments:

**Piping Plover**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Total Pairs (Total Count)	40	34	28	27	36
Number of Eggs	142	206	159	127	150
Eggs Hatched	75	43	48	77	100
<b>Chicks Fledged</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>24</b>

Over seven (9<sup>+</sup>) miles of symbolic fencing installed for plover habitat protection.

**Diamondback Terrapin**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
# of Nests Head Started	5	7	13	10	10
# of Nests Capped	133	135	139	59	43

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Number of Nests	147	176	202	172	261
Number of Nests Predated	14	21	124	78	170
<b>Potentially Hatched Nests</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>155</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>91</b>

Diamondback  
Terrapins  
Head-

Started: 67 turtles in 28 organizations.

**Terns:**

	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>
Least Terns (pairs)	144	54	73	97	96
Common Tern (pairs)	0	0	0	0	0

**Stranded Sea Turtles (fall of 2018):**

9 Kemp's Ridley  
1 Loggerheads

**Wetland Restoration:**

112 isolated freshwater wetlands treated.  
5 acres (approximately) of saltmarsh treated.

\*Restoration refers to application of herbicides on Common Reed (*Phragmites australis*) Rusty Willow (*Salix atrocinerea*) and Bittersweet (*Celastrus orbiculatus*) and mechanical removal of Purple Loosestrife (*Lythrum salicari*) and an introduced grass (*Panicum amarum ssp. amarulum*).

**Enforcement:**

	2016	2017	2018	2019
<i>Citations</i>	79	67	27	47
<i>Written Warning</i>	13	8	7	7
<i>Verbal Warnings</i>		591	375	408
<i>Permits Revoked</i>	24	16	6	11
<i>"No Trespass" Issued</i>	5 people, 1 dog	4 people, 1 dog	3 people 3 dogs	7 people 1 dog

**Revenue (fiscal year-Munis)**

	FY15	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19
Beach Parking	\$116,158	\$125,815	\$144,880	\$129,490	\$121,985
ORV Permit*	\$567,069	\$725,578	\$728,512	\$572,590	\$481,357
Camp Fire Permit				\$3,525	\$3,115
Special Permit				\$930	\$1,085
Camping Fees				\$78,670	\$70,370
Horse Fees				\$1,960	\$4,820
Sandwich Revenue	\$43,711	\$44,804	\$45,924	\$47,072	\$48,248
Beach Concession	\$7,500	\$4,200	\$4,313	\$5,100	\$5,200
Cottage Lease Fees	\$34,700	\$55,800	\$53,200	\$55,375	\$58,850
Parking Stickers	\$58,316	\$70,135	\$68,640	\$71,258	\$76,169
Merchandise	\$25,150	\$40,017	\$48,715	\$39,179	\$41,102
Miscellaneous	\$1,393	\$1,473	\$1,856	\$346	\$1,150
Earnings on Investments	\$10,833	\$6,110	\$7,191	\$11,664	\$16,484
<b><i>Total Revenue</i></b>	<b><i>\$864,830</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,073,932</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,103,231</i></b>	<b><i>\$1,017,159</i></b>	<b><i>\$929,935</i></b>

\*2018 campfire fees, special permits, overnight camp fees and horse fees were broken out into their own categories

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

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Barnstable Resident	1606	1880	1761	1504	1476
Non Resident	2395	2665	2731	2464	2372
Property Owner	144	138	146	135	131
<b><i>Total # ORV permits</i></b>	<b><i>4,145</i></b>	<b><i>4,683</i></b>	<b><i>4,770</i></b>	<b><i>4,103</i></b>	<b><i>3,979</i></b>

	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
Number Camping Nights	6,550	7,282	5,976	5,466	5,451

**Escorts**

	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019
June	30	6	4	10	8	1
July	51	13	6	5	15	9
August	37	13	0	0	12	8
September	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b><i>Total</i></b>	<b><i>118</i></b>	<b><i>32</i></b>	<b><i>10</i></b>	<b><i>15</i></b>	<b><i>35</i></b>	<b><i>18</i></b>

**Hunting:** Pheasant Hunt: October 13-November 24 (260 pheasant stocked)

**Tent Camping:** 173 nights

**Campfire Permits for the Public Beach:** 630 permits

**Two-Wheel Drive Camper Tests:** 28 tests

**Special Permits (weddings, groups gatherings, etc.):** 59 permits

**Daily Horse Permits:** 83 daily permits

**Walks and Talks (working with BLT and MA Audubon):** 11 events

**Beach Clean-ups (working with MBBA and Coast sweep):** 2 events

**Junior Ranger Programs (working with the Recreation Department):** 1 program

**Halfway House Permits:** 4 daytrips, 1 overnight

**Portable Toilets Available on the Beach:** 7 units