



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE
SANDY NECK BOARD
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Chairman:
Richards French

Vice Chairman:
William Carey

Board Members:
Barbara Bell
Lynn Heslinga
Nate King
George Muhlebach
Peter Sampou

Council Liaisons:
Henry Farnham
Ann Canedy

Sandy Neck Board Meeting
August 8, 2011

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on August 8, 2011 at the Barnstable Town Hall, 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: Nate King, George Muhlebach, Barbara Bell, Bill Carey and Rich French.
- Council Liaison: Hank Farnham and Ann Canedy.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Public: Diane Lomba.

Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Nate King and seconded by George Muhlebach, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the July minutes as printed. Barbara Bell abstained as she was not at that meeting.

Correspondence:

The following letter from Comfort Zone Camp (CZC) was presented to the Board.

Dear Nina,

With regards to our conversation earlier in the year, I am writing this to formally ask you to take this up with the Sandy Neck Committee as a formal request. In terms of history and the request let me state the following.

I am involved with a not for profit organization called Comfort Zone Camp(CZC). CZC is a bereavement camp for children between the ages of 7 and 17. The only criterion for these children is they have to have lost a parent, guardians, sibling, or primary care giver. The kids go to camp for 3 days, billed as "A fun and safe place for kids to grieve" and it is offered at several locations around the country. Chicago, Richmond Va, Western N J, Florida, and most recently Camp Burgess right here on the Cape. Right now they have 2 camps a year one in April and the other in August. The camp is free to the kids, and their families are also aided with any travel expenses they may incur. As you can imagine this can be a very costly venture. The camps, which are usually full to capacity with a wait list, consist of 60,70 kids. The "staff" for the camps are all volunteers like myself. There are between 70-90 volunteers per weekend. There is a volunteer "Big Buddy" for every child as well as support staff. It costs roughly \$35,000 per camp or \$500.00 per child for a weekend at camp. All of the funding for all of the camps are through donations and fund raising efforts, which brings me to my point.

This past February another volunteer and I organized and participated in a polar plunge at Town Neck Beach in Sandwich. We were very successful and raised over \$15,000. Earlier this winter as some of us were reminiscing about SNK we came up with the idea of some sort of event at SNK. The original idea was a flash mob. After further discussion we found out that the world's longest Salsa Line (Guinness Book of World Records)is only 418 people. The thought then was that we could easily beat that record by 82 and set a new record of 500 people. At the time I mentioned this to you we had talked about doing this in the off season. After further review I would like to propose that we do this on October 9, 2011. It would be the Sunday of Columbus Day weekend. We would be completely self sufficient and would run the event ourselves taking Care of any permitting necessary. I will tell you that I have contacted the Guinness Book people and have been granted a "Case Number" though no plans have been made at this time. This would bring national attention not only to CZC but also to SNK.

I realize there will need to be logistics and many other considerations along the way. We intend obviously to turn this into a fundraiser. I would like to try and get permission as possible so that we can use the summer to promote this event. I will be more than happy to answer any questions you may have and to be present at a board meeting to further explain our "plan". Please feel free to contact me any time and let me know what else I can or need to do. Thank you so much for your time.

Chris Greim'
Mass Volunteer Council
Comfort Zone Camp
www.comfortzonecamp.org

Correspondence:

Discussion of CZC Letter:

Nina Coleman: Explained the letter to the public watching. Chris Greim, a local firefighter, would like a fundraiser on Sandy Neck on October 9, 2011. That is Columbus Day Weekend. He wants to have a flash mob of at least 500 people create a Salsa Line. The current record in the Guinness Book of World Record is 418 people.

Rich French asked the Board for their input:

Nate King: There is not enough time to discuss his plan and create guidelines for this October. Plus, Columbus Weekend is fairly busy on Sandy Neck. Perhaps another weekend would work better – maybe next year.

Ann Canedy: Thought that they wanted it on a busy weekend so there would be enough people for the salsa line.

Nina Coleman: There is space on the beach for that number of people.

Many Board Members thought that parking would be a major obstacle.

Bill Carey: Asked that Chris Greim be invited to the next meeting. Maybe he has plans for parking.

A **motion** was made by Bill Carey and seconded by Nate King and unanimously voted by the Sandy Neck Board that a decision regarding this request be postponed until next meeting [September 12th] and that Chris Greim be present to answer any question the Board might have about this fundraiser.

Discussion of Buck Letter:

Rich French: Explained that a letter was sent to Rich French from Janet Buck [letter on file.] The letter has to do with an escort problem on Aug 1st. The issue was that she (a cottage owner) did not get an escort on time and was very disgruntled. The Sandy Neck Supervisor on duty stated that he personally forgot and apologized. Nina Coleman wrote an email to the Bucks, took responsibility for the action, and apologized. It is the only complaint they have had all summer regarding escorts.

Nina Coleman: She was off duty when this happened. As soon as she heard of this the next day, she emailed the Bucks and told them that this was unacceptable. She immediately spoke with her staff to find out why this had happened. This was an “off escort.” The escort was called in properly but the Supervisor forgot to deploy a staff member to accomplish the escort. Mrs. Buck called when the escort was five minutes late and the Supervisor immediately sent the staff member for the escort. As the escort was off the beach it took the staff member a long time to reach Mrs. Buck. It was a mistake on the Supervisor’s part and he has apologized to Mrs. Buck. Nina Coleman was very upset that this happened and took it very seriously. She will use it as a learning experience for the staff. Fortunately, it is the only incident regarding escorts this entire summer.

In her letter Mrs. Buck asked “do the rangers and escorts have any training with heat exhausting or other medical problems?” All Sandy Neck Staff is trained as “first responders”. Plus, if there is a real medical emergency, all cottage owners know they can “just go.” If there is a medical emergency, call 911.

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman addressed the Board:

- The beach is now open to Trail 6 which means no escorts are needed. This is the first time in many years that so much beach has been available.
- All plovers have fledged. There was a record number of pairs: 44 pairs. Not all were successful at fledging chicks. Based on their tracks/footprints, you can see that some were predated by coyotes. Terns are still lingering so the speed limit is 5 mph in those areas. Still two nests west of Trail 5. More information at a later time. Fisher cats –at this time – are not a threat.
 - **Barbara Bell** stated that many (12) vehicles were not properly aired down and going out on the beach. This is causing problems. Nina Coleman told her to call the gatehouse and someone would go out and check it out. Barbara Bell also said told that when “younger campers” are leaving the beach they throw their glass beer bottles out the window and the campers staying on the beach clean it up. Nina Coleman stated there are some problem younger people on the beach but not all young campers are to blame. They have a group of problem campers and they are dealing with it. Nina Coleman also said – again – to call the gatehouse and report any problems when it is happening so they can record the incident and then they will address it.
- Wednesday night BBQ at still going on – great food. They are open until around 9 pm.
- Sales of merchandise is going well. New items coming in this week.
- The day after Labor Day (Tuesday), the prices of ORV stickers is reduced to \$25/Resident, \$35/Sandwich, and \$50/NonResident.
- The recycle bins are up around the beach and concession stand.

Old Business:

Halfway House Usage Guidelines

This was continued to the next meeting because Pete Sampou was not present tonight and he is on that Committee.

Taisto Ranta Memorial

Barbara Bell read from a sheet of paper listing some of the characteristics of Taisto Ranta. She would like a picture of Mr. Ranta in the gatehouse and perhaps list this information as a sideboard. This project is still in the works. They still want some type of bench near the sidewalk by the new garage. A memo needs to be sent to the Town Manager when a decision is made listing the specifics for his approval. The Board would like this to be called "Taisto Ranta Memorial Bench". Barbara Bell will look into the cost of a bench including delivery and footings. They still need to find out the cost of engraving but they need to know the size and wording in order to find out the cost. Barbara Bell will get the bench information cost to Nina Coleman next week.

A **motion** was made by Nate King and seconded by Barbara Bell and unanimously voted by the Sandy Neck Board that an email be sent to the Town Manager requesting (1) a bench and (2) a picture be placed at Sandy Neck in memory of Taisto Ranta. No more than \$1000 will be spent for the picture & inscription, plus procurement, delivery, inscription, and placement of the bench. Such money to come from available funding. The bench will include the inscription "In Memory of Taisto Ranta".

Benjamin Bodfish Memorial Park Sign

Nina Coleman: Reviewed the deed for Bodfish Beach and reported that Bodfish is an area within the public beach – not the entire beach itself. It is not Sandy Neck Proper but just a portion within the public beach. She spoke to Rev. Allen and he is in favor of a boulder near the public beach. The Robert Our Company will deliver a boulder (of Nina Coleman's choice) and Maki Monument will come to Sandy Neck and engrave it. She will write a letter to the family when it is complete so the family can have some sort of private dedication. Nina Coleman will keep the Town Manager abreast of this decision.

New Business:

- none

Public Comment:

- none

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem