



# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

## SANDY NECK BOARD

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### Sandy Neck Board Meeting September 12, 2011

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

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on September 12, 2011 at the Barnstable Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Rich French.

#### Roll Call:

- Board Members present: Nate King, George Muhlebach, Barbara Bell, Pete Sampou, 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: Wendy Paquette, Diane Lomba and Chris Greim.

#### Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Barbara Bell and seconded by George Muhlebach, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the August minutes as presented with two corrections for spelling errors. Pete Sampou abstained as he was not at that meeting.

#### Correspondence:

*The following letter from Laurie Crocker was presented to the Board.*

August 11, 2011

To: Richards French  
Chairman: Sandy Neck Beach Governing Board  
From: Laurie M. Crocker  
Re: Conditions of Marsh trail

I want to thank you and the members of the board that serve those of us who have homes on the beach and those who enjoy the beach daily. Sandy Neck is a wonderful and unique piece of paradise on Cape Cod. I know, as I have been going to our family cottage for over 55 years.

Every summer, the cottage owners have to use the Marsh trail or the escort to get to our homes on the water. Every year the trail seems to have more standing water. This summer it has been extreme. I am surprised there has not been more mosquito activity. I have heard that a culvert needs to go in to alleviate the problem of the standing water. I have also heard that it would be too expensive to install the culvert for the benefit of so few home owners.

May I suggest *stone* and more *stone* to build up the road way. Take a look at the Halfway House and see what stone has done for it. The trail in front has been raised a few inches, 15 - 20 feet before and after the cottage. It has made a huge difference in keeping the water back from the trail. I remember just a few years ago kids walking around in muck and water.

The salt water is very damaging to vehicles, as I know firsthand. No matter how much you rinse your vehicle, it is never enough. If the trail is fixed, there won't be a need for escorts and staff personnel can attend to matters on the front beach.

Trail 2 and most of Trail 4 are in dire need of attention. The worst sections can be done this winter and the following winter do more and so on. I ask you to take this into consideration, Thank you for your time.

*Laurie M. Crocker*

## **Correspondence:**

### ***Discussion of Crocker Letter:***

There is a program in place to repair the Marsh Trail. [Since 2003/2004 season.] Nina Coleman works with Highway and ConComm. It is very costly and time consuming. Sometimes weather and tides are an issue. A lot has been accomplished recently and many cottage owners are happy with the work that has been done. Trails 2 and 4 are not in as bad a condition as previous years. There are puddles of standing fresh water – not salt water – on Trails 2 & 4. Trail 5 is of more concern to most cottage owners. Nina Coleman and Steve Heslinga, President of the Cottage Colony, are working with Mosquito Control. Don Liptack, from NRCS, has made some interesting and unusual suggestions regarding the issues. A culvert is another cure but very expensive and would take many years to get permits. Nina Coleman has another meeting with the experts. The Marsh Trail will never be totally dry and sometimes it will be wetter than others. The goal is to make the times it is wet shorter.

## **Staff Report:**

### ***Nina Coleman addressed the Board:***

- The entire beach is open to Trail 6. Gatehouse hours are 9 am to 4 pm daily with extended hours on Friday and Saturday until 9 pm.
- Porkeys BBQ will still be open on weekends (weather permitted) until Columbus Day weekend.
- Most of Sandy Neck was spared of Hurricane Irene. Windy but not much damage. Lost power which meant no bathrooms or phones. Portable toilets were put in the parking lots. Lost 2 tern chicks because of storm.
- Nina Coleman went to the fall meeting with the Cottage Colony over Labor Day weekend for their end of season wrap-up.
- There is a preliminary meeting with OKH on Wednesday to discuss solar panel installation on the Halfway House by Ben Ford, Troop #54. This is his Eagle Scout project. The energy will be stored in batteries for electrical use at the Halfway House. Rich French will be attending that meeting. Mr. Ford will bring the project to the Board at a later date for their approval.
- The artists are at the Halfway House this week.
- Nina Coleman went to Town Council last week and received approval to transfer funds left over from the Bathhouse project. The money will be spent to replace the shingles and trim on the gatehouse and air compressor shack.
- Received a donated surplus truck from the county. It is a diesel truck. Nate King organized this donation.

## **Old Business:**

### ***CZC Letter:***

***At the August Meeting, Chris Greim sent a letter to the Board requesting permission to hold a fund raiser on Sandy Neck Beach on October 9, 2011. The Board asked Mr. Greim to come to this meeting tonight.***

**Chris Greim:** Thanked the Board and based on concerns over parking, he is respectfully withdrawing his request. On another note, he stated this was the best summer he and his family has had on Sandy Neck. He thanked Nina Coleman and her staff for their hard work.

### ***Halfway House Usage Guidelines***

The draft proposal has been sent to Dave Anthony, Chief Procurement Officer, for liability issues and concerns [only]. Nina Coleman will follow up.

**Pete Sampou:** Has the suggestions from Lynn Heslinga but thinks these are more policy & procedure suggestions not usage guidelines. She has suggested:

1. *Defining the total number of people allowed to stay overnight. If just for the day is there a cap on the number of people that can use the cottage?*
2. *If there are individuals staying overnight a policy about food and trash and how it is used and disposed of might be necessary.*
3. *Are there any pet stipulations? If so, should the owners provide vaccination and rabies report?*
4. *Should the scientific reports be posted on the Sandy Neck website so that people can see what type of research is being done?*
5. *Will there be an approved application form indicating the number of days / year any group can stay and listing a specific rent or other forms of donations?*

6. *Definition of Art: musicians, painters, bird watchers, astronomy group, writers, hunters?*
7. *If the cottage burns down due to renter's negligence, can it be rebuilt?*
8. *Have we checked into the liability issues regarding the cottage?*
9. *Should there be a security deposit?*
10. *Should there be someone who is paid to clean the cottage after the property is rented?*

**Pete Sampou:** The guidelines themselves should not be this specific. These are great ideas for the specific day-to-day operations.

**Barbara Bell:** Would like to table until the Board hears back from the Legal Dept.

**Hank Farnham:** Feels the amount received (\$20 or a small donation) may not be enough for this wonderful opportunity to use the Halfway House.

**Nina Coleman:** There is no mechanism set up yet so all they can only ask for is a "suggested donation". She is working on contractual rental agreement and fee. This is still a work in progress. More work is needed and what is put on the actual application will be discussed over the next few months.

**Rich French:** Would like some feedback from the artists that are currently at the Halfway House this week. What worked? What didn't? What did you like? What didn't you like? Etc.

### ***Taisto Ranta Memorial***

***A framed photograph of Taisto Ranta was presented to the Board. They would like more information about him included on the picture and brought back next month. This picture will be hung in the gatehouse.***

***The following pictures of a boulder were shown. Perhaps this could be used instead of a bench. This will be located on the northside of the garage. Some educational information could be placed around the boulder.***



***The wording on the rock shall be:  
In Memory of Taisto Ranta  
1920 – 2009***

Nina Coleman will send a memorandum to the Town Manager for his final approval.

***Nina Coleman also purchased another boulder, "the recliner rock", that will be placed elsewhere at Sandy Neck.***



### ***Benjamin Bodfish Memorial Park Sign***

Nina Coleman has put a boulder up near the Bathhouse. She will ask Maki Monument to come and see the rock and tell her if it is big enough to engrave the wording "Benjamin Bodfish Memorial Park". More information to follow.

### **New Business:**

#### ***Election of Sandy Neck Board Officers:***

A **motion** was made by Pete Sampou and seconded by Barbara Bell to nominate Rich French as Chairman of the Sandy Neck Board.

**Discussion:** **Rich French** stated he believes in term limits. He has been Chairman for a couple of years and perhaps someone else may want to be Chairman. **Nate King** felt that Rich French was doing a good job and would appreciate if he (Rich) continued in the role. **Pete Sampou** asked if anyone else was interested.

**Vote:** All voted yes

A **motion** was made by Nate King and seconded by Rich French to nominate Bill Carey as Vice Chairman of the Sandy Neck Board.

**Discussion:** **Bill Carey** stated he would welcome anyone else if they want to step up and be Vice Chairman. Does anyone else want to be Vice Chairman and then continue ahead to Chairman.

**Vote:** All voted yes

#### ***Town of Sandwich Fee Discussion:***

The Board would like to invite the Town of Sandwich representatives to come to a Sandy Neck Board Meeting so they can hear any discussion about possible changes to the Sandwich Neck Stickers and/or Fees charged to Sandwich residents. Perhaps a presentation of Sandwich use over the last 4 -5 years could be shown. Based on their usage and the completion of the new Sandy Neck Bathhouse, the fee(s) may need to change.

### **Public Comment:**

**Ann Canedy** went to the Sandy Neck Association Meeting on Sept 4<sup>th</sup>. Their issues and concerns were:

1. *Cottage and personal security*
2. *2012 Leases Renewal*
3. *Trail maintenance*
4. *Escort service*
5. *Enforcement of the no wake zone*
6. *911 and reverse 911 capability*
7. *Posting of scientific data on the town's website*
8. *Preservation of Lucille Moquin's Sandy Neck Cottage Colony historical records and photographs.*

### **Adjournment:**

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem