



TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

SANDY NECK BOARD

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Sandy Neck Board Meeting August 13, 2012

Chairman:

Richards French

Vice Chairman:

William Carey

Board Members:

Barbara Bell
Lynn Heslinga
Nate King
George Muhlebach
Peter Sampou

Council Liaisons:

June Daley

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on August 13, 2012 at the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:32 pm by Vice Chairman William Carey.

Roll Call:

- Board Members present: Lynn Heslinga, George Muhlebach, Nate King, Pete Sampou, and Bill Carey.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager; and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Council Liaison: June Daley.
- Public: Chris Greim, Wendy Paquette, Diane Lomba, Kylie Palomba, Town Councilor Ann Canedy Matilda Reckford, and Laura Reckford (Barnstable Enterprise).

Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Nate King and seconded by Pete Sampou, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the July minutes as printed.

Correspondence:

- none

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman addressed the Board:

- Gatehouse is staffed around the clock and open for business seven days a week from 8 am to 9 pm.
- The Junior Rangers "graduated" from their summer classes.
- The Sandy Neck Summer Flora Fauna Hike is Wednesday, August 15th from 10 am to noon.
- To review the parking plan now in effect:
 - ❖ Most people are complimenting the new parking plan.
 - ❖ Parking areas divided equally among day trippers and campers/chase vehicles.
 - ❖ Everyone parked perpendicular.
 - ❖ Have not turned away any vehicles.
 - ❖ Goal of safety and equity was met with this parking plan.
 - ❖ Must maintain the parking plan all week long even if there are "open areas" mid-week as it is too confusing to go back and forth between using and not using plan.
- Reminder – if have a problem/issue call the gatehouse when it is happening. She can not address the issue if you say something weeks or months later.
- Thank you to the Paul & Dessie Stringer for their outreach regarding dogs on Sandy Neck. It has made a difference.
- There is one plover chick left on the beach. It is 30 days old today. Very delayed. The beach will reopen either when it fledges or on the 35th day whichever comes first based on the Orders of Conditions. Bad year for plovers – only 3 chicks out of 41 pairs survived. Poor productivity because of the June 3rd loss from the storm.

Old Business:

Executive Session Minutes from February 14, 2011 & April 09, 2012

Continued to the September 10th meeting.

New Business:

Air Station area discussion

At the July meeting, Rich French asked Amy Hallett if she could talk to some of the beach users and report back to Nina Coleman any ideas and suggestions regarding the air station (an issue she brought up during public comment). Ms. Hallett was not present and did not contact Nina Coleman. Rich French was not present to ask if she had contacted him regarding this issue. This matter will be continued to the September meeting.

Public Comment:

- Chris Greim stated he finds it interesting that the people who complain the most never come to the meetings. He asked (on busy weekends) if the NROs could guide the air station users so the flow would be better .
- Ann Canedy received the following letter from Barry and Johanne Gallus and she read it aloud.

Hi Ann,

I'm writing you in your capacity as representative of Sandy Neck. My husband and I have been overnighing on the Neck for over twenty years and go down on week nights when the beach is not crowded. Since the new segregated parking of campers and day trippers has been established, the weeknight camping area parking has been unfairly restricted to campers.

When we arrive in the early evening the day tripper areas are open, yet we cannot park in those areas, however, day trippers can park with the campers, causing overcrowding. Since the day tripper area doesn't fill up late in the day that section of beach remains empty for the entire night. In our opinion the segregated parking system does not work. In talking with other campers they are not satisfied with this system either. Leaving the parking open to all at a first come first serve basis makes for a more equal parking system. My husband expressed his opinion of the segregated parking system to a gate guard and the gate guard's response was borderline rude. Barry later spoke to a gate supervisor and then received an apology call from the gate guard.

The last time we were on the beach there was a couple with six dogs running loose. I think six dogs seems very excessive; I thought there was a leash law.

We also go down to the cottage colony and visit friends who have been summering there since the 1950's. They all speak very highly of you.

Hope all is well and you are enjoying summer.

Sincerely,

"Joey" Gallus

In reply the Board summarized: The parking plan was discussed at length this past winter. Equity is a key issue. There is a lot of area available mid-week and the parking area is divided 50/50. There are plenty of spaces - maybe not "your favorite spot" but still plenty of beach is available. The ORV corridor needs to be kept open. Safety is paramount. This is "change" and people need to adjust. Again, if you have an issue about dogs you need to call the gatehouse when it happens not on a later date. Starting Friday, the parking plan will end because the entire beach will reopen.

Nate King announced: There is a benefit for Paul Farren on August 26, 2012 from 2-5 pm at the Hyannis Elks.

Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:08 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem