

**TOWN OF BARNSTABLE**  
**SANDY NECK BOARD**  
1189 Phinney's Lane  
Centerville, MA 02632

Tel: 508-790-6272  
Fax: 508-790-6275

**Sandy Neck Board Meeting**  
**February 12, 2018**

Chairman:  
Richards French

Vice Chairman:  
Thomas O'Neill

Board Members:  
William Carey  
Nate King  
William Monroe  
Wendy Paquette  
Peter Sampou

Council Liaison:  
Phil Wallace  
John Flores

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on February 12, 2018 in the Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by Chairman Richard French.

**Roll Call:**

- Board Members present: Tom O'Neill, Bill Carey, Wendy Paquette, Pete Sampou, Bill Monroe, and Rich French.
- Board Member absent: Nate King.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary.
- Council Liaisons present: none.
- Council Liaisons absent: John Flores and Phil Wallace.
- Public: Diane Lomba and Kylie Palomba.

**Act on Minutes:**

- On a **motion** by Bill Munroe and seconded by Tom O'Neill, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the January 08, 2018 minutes as printed.

**Correspondence:**

- A letter from Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association Inc. (MBBA) was read by Chairman Rich French. MBBA would like to have a beach clean-up day on Saturday April 21, 2018 at Sandy Neck. (Letter attached).

**Staff Report:**

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

- Thanks to MBBA for taking on the task of beach clean-up again this year. The date and information will be put on the website.
- The Gatehouse repairs are coming along from the flood (Grayson storm). New insulation was blown in. New drywall is up. Paint and flooring to be completed next. Hoping to have it completed by the end of February. March plans include renewal applications, hiring and fencing. Very busy month.
- The ORV beach is open 8 am to 4 pm. The Gatehouse is not open. Staff is there but the Gatehouse cannot open yet – no electricity.
- Still snowy owls on the beach.

**ORV Renewal Applications:**

- The renewal applications will be done differently this year. They will not be mailed out. This will save thousands of dollars. There will be an email blast sent out to last year's permit holders with the information. The applications will also be available on the website. Permit application will have the following important information:

*Dear Sandy Neck Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Beach Patron,*

*We are committed to providing a safe and enjoyable ORV beach experience.*

*A few reminders for the 2018 ORV beach season:*

- 1) *Due to the popularity of Sandy Neck, we anticipate that there will be times when we will have to close the ORV beach due to overcrowding. This will be a safety decision made by staff. If this happens you will not be allowed to "save a spot" for a friend.*
- 2) *We understand that being turned away will be disappointing, so we have developed an APP for your smart phone that will provide you real time updated information. The link to the SNK APP is on the front page of our website at [www.townofbarnstable/sandyneck park/](http://www.townofbarnstable/sandyneckpark/)*
- 3) *Alcohol is not permitted on Sandy Neck Beach Park.*
- 4) *Fireworks (including sky lanterns) are not permitted in the state of Massachusetts.*

*Thank you for your continued interest in Sandy Neck Beach Park.*

**Discussion:**

- Should number one be bold? Italics? Should they be in red? These ideas will be looked at by Nina Coleman.
- The new App will be discussed again next month. Donna Bragg will present this new information.
- On the application itself, some of the information is in bigger print and bold.
- The application will be on the website and can be printed and mailed in or brought to the gatehouse for processing.
- At this point, it cannot be processed on line.
- Property owners will still get a letter.

**Safety Solutions:** (Review of what was previously discussed and agreed upon):

- Limit number of vehicles,
- Create Sandy Neck App,
- Inform public about management changes,
- Work with PD to set the tone,
- Increase PD presence on Sunday,
- Campaign = "if you see something say something",
- Zone patrolling,
- Updating Sandy Neck Regulations,
- Updating guidelines for staff regarding alcohol use,
- Safety improvements on Sandy Neck Road such as speed bumps and signage,
- Cameras at gatehouse for safety of gatehouse personnel.

**Trail Repairs:**

- Meeting with DPW regarding trail repairs. It will be done this spring – in March.
- Cottagers are planning to do their repairs from the storm in late March and April. Reminder: the dumpster is only for household trash! Nothing else. It is disrespectful and costs money and staff time when other items are put in the dumpsters.

## **Old Business:**

### ***Update - Long-term Coastal Resiliency Alternatives Report***

***Pete Sampou addressed the Board.***

- He has reached out to the four new Town Councilors – Matthew Levesque, Britt Beedenbender, Paula Schnepf and Paul Neary. One phone call and two letters. Only Paula Schnepf has responded and he is meeting with her tomorrow (February 13<sup>th</sup>). He has not heard back from the other three councilors. He will follow up again. This will be the third time he has written to them.
- Rich French asked the Board if they felt a letter should be sent (again) to the entire town council seeking a letter of support.
- Pete Sampou stated he will write another letter to the every councilor.

A **motion** was made by Wendy Paquette and seconded by Tom O'Neill asking Pete Sampou to write a letter to Town Council for seeking their support of the Long-Term Coastal Resiliency Alternative Report. **Discussion:** Included in the letter will be information regarding the environmental issues, the potential revenue loss, safety concerns, and beach access. Also, there will be a reminder that Sandy Neck is an enterprise account. If the Council would like, there could be a presentation to the full council outlining all that has been done so far. **Vote:** All yes.

## **New Business:**

### ***Policy Changes***

***Nina Coleman addressed the Board.***

The entire policy is attached at the end [Changes in red]. However, the only change is that dogs are allowed on Sandy Neck hiking trails anytime of the year as long as they remain on a leash from March 1<sup>st</sup> through October 31<sup>st</sup> (not Sept 15<sup>th</sup>). All dogs on the ORV corridor must be leashed unless in the waters of the Cape Cod Bay from March 1<sup>st</sup> to October 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition, areas that have high wildlife value will be marked as "No Dogs Allowed."

A **motion** was made by Tom O'Neill and seconded by Pete Sampou to support the Sandy Neck Beach Park Management Policies changes discussed tonight. The document revised date is February 12, 2018. **Vote:** All yes.

## **Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair:**

Pete Sampou mentioned his two visits to the Halfway House. As a result of the Grayson storm, there was some water damage. He felt it could be cleaned and the cottage survived the storm. He will bring some students out to do the cleaning and will report back the progress.

## **Public Comment:**

- None

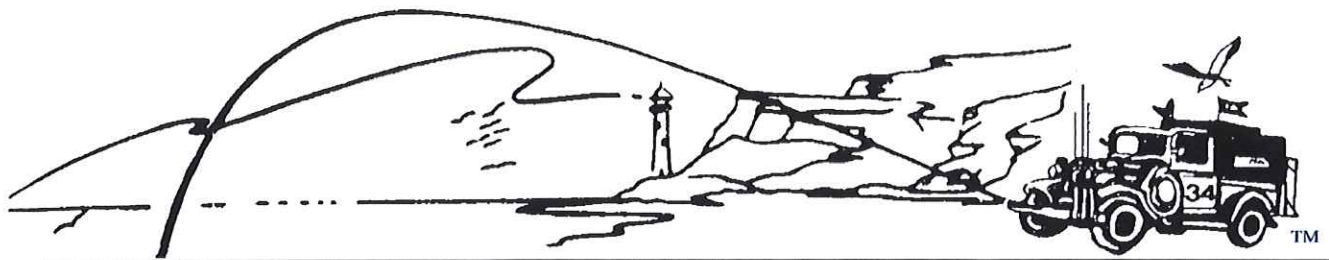
## **Adjournment:**

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:22 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary





## MASSACHUSETTS BEACH BUGGY ASSOCIATION, INC.



### OFFICERS

#### *President*

Patrick Paquette  
61 Maple Street  
Hyannis, MA 02601

#### *Vice President*

Tom Moss  
595 Tremont St.  
Taunton, MA 02780

#### *Executive Vice President*

Bill Correia  
28 Belmont Avenue  
Harwich, MA 02645

#### *Recording Secretary*

Elena McCorrison  
882 Bumps River Road  
Centerville, MA 02632

#### *Membership Secretary*

Diane Lomba  
138 Capt. Nickerson Rd.  
S. Yarmouth, MA 02664

#### *Treasurer*

Scott Morris  
18 Church Street  
East Harwich, MA 02645

#### *Executive Secretary*

Steven White  
36 Bridge Street  
Lakeville, MA 02347



#### *Affiliations*

Massachusetts Sportsmen's Council  
Massachusetts Striped Bass Assoc  
Plum Island Surfcasters  
Rhode Island Saltwater Anglers Assoc  
United Mobile Access Preservation Assoc

February 1, 2018

Town of Barnstable  
Barnstable Department of Natural Resources  
1189 Phinneys Lane  
Centerville, MA 02632

Attn: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Ranger

Dear Nina,

We are currently scheduling our beach projects for 2018 and would like to extend our offer of assistance for work needed to prepare your beach for the upcoming season.

We have set aside the date of Saturday April 21<sup>nd</sup>. for the 2018 Sandy Neck Beach Conservation Project. We would like your permission to arrive on Friday afternoon and use a portion of the lower parking lot as an overnight holding area.

It is requested that the beach managers supply the trash bags for the projects, in the past we got the heavy yellow bags from the state, but they are difficult to get these days. Also please indicate where you would like us to leave the filled bags.

We do conservation projects on many of the beaches from the New Hampshire state line to the Rhode Island border. We plant beach grass, put up fence for erosion control, and pick up trash.

On the average we can expect around 30 volunteers to come out and help with the project.

Please contact me with your work needs so I may inform our volunteers, we are willing and able to help in any way we can.

I have enclosed a stamped self-addressed post card for your response.

Thank you,

Don McCorrison  
MBBA Conservation Chairman  
882 Bumps River Road  
Centerville, MA 02632

donnymac1108@yahoo

Visit our web site at: [www.mbba.net](http://www.mbba.net)



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**Sandy Neck Beach Park Management Policies**

*Adopted by the Sandy Neck Board on February 7, 2005*

*Revised: March 9, 2009, March 8, 2010, November 14, 2011, April 14, 2014*

*March 14, 2016 and February 12, 2018.*

Complaints concerning policies, regulations, and/or Sandy Neck staff conduct should be addressed to the Park Manager or Senior Natural Resource Officer.

**Section 1: Sandy Neck Fees**

Sandy Neck user fees are at set rates depending on residency status. Residency must be proven per the Sandy Neck Beach Park Regulations and Sandy Neck Beach Park Policies.

**Section 2: No Refund Policy**

It is the Sandy Neck Beach Park Policy that no refunds will be granted. Included, but not limited, in this policy are personal emergencies, foul weather, evacuations, limitations on access, beach conditions, insects (greenhead flies, etc.) and water temperature.

The No Refund Policy pertains to any and all patrons that make use of any Sandy Neck Beach Park or Gatehouse facilities. All public beach users, Off Road Vehicle (ORV) day trippers, sticker purchasers, overnight camping and chase vehicles are subject to this policy and must comply accordingly.

**Section 3: Parking Lot Policies**

**3.1 Dogs**

Dogs are prohibited from all Barnstable bathing beaches (Town of Barnstable General Ordinances §403-8) from May 15 to September 15. Dogs are not allowed past the Gatehouse between May 15 and September 15 unless they are contained within a permitted vehicle that is traveling to the Off Road Vehicle beach.

Dogs are allowed on Sandy Neck hiking trails anytime of the year as long as they remain on a leash from March 1<sup>st</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup> October 31<sup>st</sup>.

All dogs on the ORV corridor must be leashed unless in the waters of the Cape Cod Bay from March 1<sup>st</sup> through September 15<sup>th</sup> October 31<sup>st</sup>. In addition, areas that have high wildlife value will be marked as "No Dogs Allowed."

**3.2 Drive-Thru(s) and Drop Offs**

Parking lot business hours are from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM Memorial Day through Labor Day.

All vehicles traveling to the bathing beach during business hours must have a Sandwich or Barnstable Beach Parking Permit or a valid Barnstable Public Beach Day, Weekly or Landlord Pass.

Vehicles without one of the above attributes are not permitted to travel to the parking lot. This includes any dropping off of vehicle occupants or participation in any activity that does not involve parking.

**3.3 Full Parking Lot**

Per requirements of the Sandy Neck Board, only five vehicles are permitted to wait in line once the parking lot is full. This is mandatory procedure because of the need to keep the road clear for off-road and cottage owner vehicle access and to allow emergency personnel to get to the beach unimpeded.

The lot will re-open once five spaces become available and the five vehicles in line can fill the vacant spaces. The next five vehicles that arrive at the Gatehouse are then eligible to wait in line.

The Gate Attendant Supervisor or the Park Manager, for safety purposes, may deem that it is necessary for the parking lot to remain closed.

When the parking lot is full, no vehicles are permitted to travel to the parking lot for dropping off occupants, even if the vehicle has a Sandwich or Barnstable Beach Parking Permit or a valid Barnstable Public Beach Day or Weekly Pass.

**Section 4: Proof of Residency**

Sandy Neck provides discounted Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Permits to residents and/or property taxpayers of Barnstable. Proof of residency is defined in the regulations as:

*Proof of residency is required in order to obtain a Barnstable ORV Permit. Residency can be proven by:*

- 1. Tax bill,*
- 2. Minimum one year property lease,*
- 3. Vehicle registration with a street address (PO Box is not sufficient),*
- 4. Other legal documents such as a deed or will (this does not include utility bills, excise tax bills, etc.).*
- 5. College students may provide a tuition bill with a Barnstable address.*

*Barnstable residents wishing to obtain an ORV Permit must have their vehicle registered in their name (or the name of a person residing year-round at the same address) unless:*

- 1. They have written permission to use a company vehicle.*
- 2. Proof of ownership of the company on the vehicle registration.*
- 3. A minimum one year vehicle lease agreement.*

To clarify, the Barnstable resident/taxpayer must be the applicant. The vehicle must be (1) in the resident/taxpayer's name (2) in the name of a person living year-round at the same address or (3) in the name of the company that the resident/taxpayer owns or works for (with written proof).

#### **Section 5: Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Permits**

Barnstable General Ordinances Chapter 177, Article 1, §177-2 requires that all over sand vehicles on Sandy Neck must have a current ORV permit. Only official vehicles (as determined by the Park Manager) are exempt from this requirement.

ORV permits are non-transferable. Permits may be re-issued to the same beach patron (or someone residing at the same address) providing the original permit is returned or there is documented proof that the permit was destroyed.

#### **Section 6: User Conduct**

All users of Sandy Neck Beach Park are expected to behave in a civil and responsible manner. Verbal abuse and/or aggressive behavior toward Sandy Neck Staff or other beach patrons will result in the violator's removal from the beach for not less than 24 hours. In addition, violators may have their ORV Permit revoked, incur fines for obscene language in accordance with Town of Barnstable General Ordinances §147-1 and/or be issued trespass orders.

#### **Section 7: Property Owner Off Road Vehicle (ORV) Permits**

##### **7.1 Eligibility**

Property Owner ORV Permits will be issued to Sandy Neck property owners, Sandy Neck property lessees (minimum one year lease) and immediate members of their family. Immediate family members include father, mother, sister, brother, husband/wife or partner, son and daughter (including step-son and/or step-daughter).

##### **7.2 Proof of Eligibility**

It is the responsibility of the applicant to prove ownership or lessee status. Immediate family relationships can be proven by a legal document such as a birth certificate, marriage certificate or notarized letter.

##### **7.3 Property Owner ORV permit privileges**

The Property Owner ORV Permit affords access (via open Sandy Neck trails) to the applicable cottage only. It also allows vehicle use of the front beach (open sections only) for recreational purposes and use of the air compressor. In addition, the cottage owner may use the Sandy Neck dumpster to discard ORV and household trash. Dumping of construction debris, hazardous waste, discarded equipment, or any other items that are not ORV or household trash is strictly forbidden and will result in fines.

##### **7.4 Guests of Property Owners**

Guests of property owners may park in the Sandy Neck Parking lot. However, in-season guests are responsible for appropriate daily fee or parking permit for the entirety of their stay. Guests may park in the parking lot out-of-season at no cost.

If the guest intends on driving to a cottage, he/she must purchase the appropriate Sandy Neck Non-resident or Barnstable ORV Permit. Sandy Neck staff will issue a trail pass only after the Cottage Owner has alerted the Gatehouse that a particular individual can access their cottage.

#### **Section 8: Halfway House Usage**

##### **8.1 Intent**

The purpose of this recommendation is to provide clear direction and consistency for the Park Manager and the potential users and/or advocates interested in maintaining the special nature and use of the Halfway House.

##### **8.2 Eligibility**

The Halfway House has a long and stable history of educational and research based occupancy (spanning more than 30 yrs). It was regularly used by the Barnstable High School as part of a coastal ecology program. For the last twenty years the Halfway House has been used as a college level research station.

However, there are groups of people besides scientists that can impart a lasting benefit to the ecology and unique nature of Sandy Neck and the community of greater Barnstable. These groups must receive no monetary benefit from access to the Halfway House rather they might request to access this shelter because of the uniquely serene and beautiful environs the Halfway House offers. For a set fee (or another form of donation acceptable by the Sandy Neck Park Manager) certified non-profit groups that run art or nature based educational programs should have the ability to visit and/or stay at the Halfway House.



In addition, the Halfway House should continue to be used by science based educators and researchers in exchange for services and/or monies that these groups have traditionally provided to Sandy Neck.

While the Halfway House can always provide emergency shelter for youth groups, it is not the intention of these policies to suggest that young people (who can make use of the existing camping facilities at Trail 4) should have access to the Halfway House unless there is a reason that camping is not feasible. Requests from such groups will be considered on their respective merit and judged by the Sandy Neck Park Manager on a case by case basis.

## 8.2 Permit Requirements

Interested non-profit educational, scientific and art groups may apply for consideration for use of the Halfway House. If selected, the organization would be granted a Special Permit that will set fees and usage guidelines. In addition, insurance and liability waiver requirements will be set forth under a Sandy Neck Beach Park License Agreement.