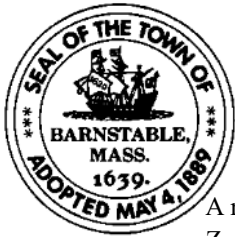


TOWN OF BARNSTABLE SANDY NECK BOARD

1189 Phinney's Lane
Centerville, MA 02632

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Sandy Neck Board Meeting January 11, 2021

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on January 11, 2021 at 7:10 pm by remote Zoom meeting. *In accordance with the Governor's Order Prohibiting Gatherings of More Than 10 People, issued on March 15, 2020, and effective through May 18, 2020, unless further extended, the June 8, 2020 public meeting of the Sandy Neck Board shall be physically closed to the public to avoid group congregation.*

Chairman:
Thomas O'Neill

ViceChairman:
Peter Sampou

BoardMembers:
Ann Canedy
William Carey
William Monroe
Hank Farnham
Joe O'Brien

CouncilLiaison:
Gordon Starr
Kris Clark

Barnstable PD
Liaison:
Chris Kelsey

Roll Call:

- Board Members remotely present: Tom O'Neill, Pete Sampou, Bill Monroe, Ann Canedy, Joe O'Brien and Hank Farnham.
- Board Members absent: Bill Carey.
- Staff: Division Director Natural Resources, Nina Coleman and Donna Bragg, Operations Supervisor. Natural Resource Officer, Sean Kortis.
- Staff Member absent: None.
- Council Liaisons present: Gordon Starr.
- Public: Wendy Paquette, Diane Lomba, Paul Berger, Chris Kelsey,
- Guest Speaker: None.

Act on Minutes:

- On a **motion** by Pete Sampou and seconded by Joe O'Brien, the Sandy Neck Board voted by Roll call to approve the December 14, 2020 minutes as printed.

Public Comment: None.

Correspondence: None.

Staff Report:

Nina Coleman addressed the Board.

- Active month for turtle rescue. 19 Kemps Ridley, 8 Loggerheads. Thank you to O'Neill family.
- Double Snowy Owl release on December 21, 2020. Thank you to Norman Smith.
- Still selling 2020 Off Road Vehicle Permits.
- Off Road Vehicle Beach hours, 8 am to 4 pm. Must be off by 4 pm.
- An Off Road Vehicle Permit is still require, year round.
- Dogs must be leashed at all times. Pets cannot go past closure line, Trail 6.
- Fat tire bikes: No riding on dunes, must stay on trails, may ride on front beach to Trail 6. Cannot ride past closure line. No electric assist bikes allowed (E-bikes).
- Online Off Road Vehicle Permitting program is in process of being developed. This system will be contactless and an easy process for the consumer. When ready an email will be sent out to current permit holders explaining the process.
- Storm damage has occurred on the frontal dune at the parking lot. Concern is for future storms. Emergency appropriation for funds to nourish the dunes will go before Town Council. Discussion followed. *See picture attachment.

Old Business:

Conservation and beach erosion along our coastlines.

- Pete Sampou addressed the Board. Pete has been reaching out to Town Council Members regarding the Coastal resiliency plan. Would like to use Nina's pictures of the dune damage and write a letter to the Town Council.

Economic sustainability.

Public outreach and public use & participation.

- Bill Monroe addressed the Board regarding the Eagle Scout project. When the weather breaks Troop 54 will come out and install the bird houses they completed on the Marsh Trail. Bill will coordinate.
- Tom O'Neill addressed the Board looking to set aside time for a discussion regarding what was learned this past year from the Covid-19 pandemic in regards to Sandy Neck in 2020 and a plan for 2021. Nina Coleman addressed the Board in response to Tom's statement and told the Board the Safety Solutions presentation was a good place to start.

New Business:

2020 Sandy Neck Beach Park Safety Solutions.

- Tom O'Neill addressed the Board looking to set aside time for a for an opportunity to discuss the Sandy Neck 2020 Covid-19 response. Lessons learned and what can be applied to the 2021 season.
- Natural Resource Officer, Sean Kortis addressed the Board presenting the Board with the 2020 Sandy Neck Beach Park Safety Solutions.
- Highlighted in the presentation were the following:
 1. Sandy Neck incident response for 2020.
 2. Breakdown of incidents that involved aggressive behavior.
 3. Implemented solutions 2019 recap.
 4. Response to Covid-19 pandemic.
 5. Adherence to Governor's orders regarding recreational beaches and campsites.
 6. Curfew change in 2020 to 9 pm due to Covid-19. No camp fires were allowed until Labor Day weekend.
 7. Reduced ORV beach capacity during season due to social distancing, restrictions, and group size limitations.
 8. Special permitting, talks and walks cancelled due to Covid-19.
 9. Staff responded to safety and sanitizing requirements.
 10. Public information handouts and signage for Covid-19 requirements.
 11. PBD liaison was created. Officer Chris Kelsey.
 12. Updates to Sandy Neck Beach Park Regulations.
 13. 2021 Changes to ORV permit pricing.
 14. Verbal warning summary.
 15. Continue to adjust to changes in the Covid-19 response for 2021.
 16. Patron safety upgrades to Sandy Neck Road, Gatehouse area, and Public parking.
 17. Looking ahead to 2022,
 18. Discussion followed.
*See attached report.

Matters not reasonably anticipated by the Chair: None.

Public Comment:

- Bill Monroe addressed the Board regarding the amount of foot traffic out on the Great Marsh Trail. He also spoke about the rise in levels of water with the tides on the Great Marsh.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:06 pm.
Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bragg, Secretary Pro Tem

Attachments:

- # 1 Pictures of front dune erosion.
- #2 Safety Solutions report.



Public Beach: lower parking lot pedestrian access point.



Public Beach: looking east from "old" handicapped ramp



Public Beach: dune in front of upper parking lot.



2020 Sandy Neck Safety Solutions.pdf