



# TOWN OF BARNSTABLE

## SANDY NECK BOARD

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### Sandy Neck Board Meeting

April 14, 2025

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on April 14, 2025, at 7:02 pm in the Selectmens Conference Room.

Chair:

Thomas O'Neill

Vice Chair:

Peter Sampou

Board Members:

William Carey  
William Monroe  
Maureen Piccione  
Rene King  
Rich French

Council Liaison:

Gordon Starr  
Kris Clark

Barnstable

PD Liaison:

Chris Kelsey

### Roll Call:

Board Members present by roll call: Tom O'Neill, Pete Sampou, Maureen

Piccione, Rich French, Bill Carey, and Bill Monroe.

Board Members absent: Rene King.

Staff: Sandy Neck: Assistant Sandy Neck Park Manager, Ann Marie Luppino, and  
Operations Supervisor, Donna Bragg

Staff Member absent: Sandy Neck Park Manager, Nina Coleman.

Council Liaisons present: Kris Clark

Barnstable Police Liaison:

Public: Wendy Paquette, Paul Berger, Tracy Hallett, and Dana Perry.

Guest Speaker:

**Act on Minutes:** On a motion from Bill Carey and seconded by Rich French, the Board, by voice and show of hands, voted to approve the February 10, 2025, minutes.

**Notes from the Chair:** Tom O'Neill addressed the Board. Tom has engaged Zack Mertz, CEO of New England Wildlife, to come and speak with the Board at the June meeting. Zack also runs the Cape Wildlife Center in Barnstable, which is part of New England Wildlife. Zack is going to speak about the connection between Cape Wildlife and Sandy Neck, and the various wildlife that is brought in. They treat 2,500 animals a year from Cape Cod, treating 200 plus species of animals.

Tom visited the New England Aquarium Turtle Rehabilitation Hospital in Weymouth. They had about 85 cold stunned turtles in various stages of rehabilitation.

Two Board Member have renewals coming up in June.

Tom said it was very important to attend the Board meetings and to let him know if a member could not attend. He spoke about the cancellation of last month's meeting due to not having a quorum. He asked Board members to please reach out to someone to let them know if they can't make the meeting. Maureen asked about a timeframe at a meeting where we do not have a quorum. Donna said fifteen minutes and then we would have to cancel the meeting.

**Correspondence:** None.

**Staff Report:** Ann Marie Luppino addressed the Board. \* **See attached report.**

- Hours until May 1, 2025: Gatehouse is open from 9am-3pm, daily. Off-Road Vehicle Beach is open from 8am-4pm daily. No campfires allowed. The speed limit on Off-Road Vehicle Beach is 5mph.
- Beginning May1, 2025 The Gatehouse hours are 8am-9pm, daily. The Off-Road Vehicle Beach is open 8am-10pm. Campfires are allowed at 7pm or sunset, whichever comes first. The speed limit on the Off-Road Vehicle Beach is 5mph.
- Upcoming Events: 4/24, Signs of Spring Hike, 10am-Noon. 5/14, Spring Flora and Fauna Hike from 10am-Noon. 5/22 Off-Road Vehicle 101 for Beginners, (open to all), from 5:30pm to 7pm. Please email the Gatehouse at [sandyneck@town.barnstable.ma.us](mailto:sandyneck@town.barnstable.ma.us) to register.
- Thanks to Massachusetts Beach Buggy Association, (MBBA), and volunteers for another great beach clean up and Habitat Conservation Plan, (HCP), work this year. In total, we put up a thousand yards of flagging. We also laid 465 Pallets with another 150 to go.
- Sandy Neck Staff assisted the International Fund for Animal Welfare, (IFAW), and volunteers with a dolphin release on April 7, 2025, at Sandy Neck. The animals were tagged. There was a discussion regarding the rescue of persons from the beach. Bill Monroe said there were plenty of resources in the town to assist with any rescues. Tom said the new configuration of the parking lot will have an emergency access point.
- Ann Marie showed a presentation of the projects, Eagle Scout candidates, Greyson Hickey and Jack Betes did for Sandy Neck. Tom asked if Ann Marie would pass along the Scouts and Scoutmasters email addresses so he could send them a thank you from the Board. Greyson did informational kiosks and Jack put up an Osprey pole with informational signage.

## **Old Business:**

- **Conservation and beach erosion along our coastlines.** None.
- **Economic sustainability.** None.
- **Public outreach and public use & participation.** None.
- **Sandy Neck Beach Reconfiguration Project Update.** Tom O'Neill addressed the Board regarding the bidding process for the project. There is a pre-bid meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup> at Sandy Neck for bidders to look over the scope of the project. Any questions they have are due by April 30, 2025. The closing date for the bids is May 9, 2025. It has been a very active bidding process with around twenty-seven organizations interested in bidding. The information is on the Town of Barnstable Procurement Page.
- Ann Marie Luppino addressed the Board. We will be applying for the Coastal Zone Management, (CZM), which is state funded. We were also going to go after the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, (NFWF), grant which is federally funded.
- Bill Carey asked about the timeline of the project. Tom said we are still on course. Bill asked about the grant funding and Ann Marie said the applications for grant is due by May 6, 2025, for the National Coastal Resiliency Fund through the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation. The other grant will be through Coastal Zone Management (CZM), for the construction portion for the entire project. The CZM application is to be filed in April 2025. Still looking at a start date in the fall of this year.
- There were questions regarding the condition of the beach. Donna said it was narrow east of Trail 4 and we are hoping it builds back up. The Marsh Trail work was completed in March with all trail accessible to Cottage Owners at this time. Donna said Chucky did an amazing job. Kris Clark wanted his information so she could send a letter of thanks. Chuck Coleman from the town, did the work.

**New Business:** None.

**Matters not Reasonably Anticipated by the Chair:** None.

**Public Comment:** The Board thanked the members of MBBA again. Paul Berger said there were 27 people who participated in the project. Bill Monroe said he would speak with the scouts about laying the rest of the 150 pallets. Bill Carey asked about the numbers of plovers. Ann Marie said we are still in the early stages.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned by unanimous consent at 7:27 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Bragg, Operations Supervisor, Sandy Neck

Attachments:



April 14th – Staff  
Report - Copy.pdf