

**TOWN OF BARNSTABLE**  
**SANDY NECK BOARD**  
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**Sandy Neck Board Meeting**  
**January 09, 2012**

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sandy Neck Board was held on January 09, 2012 at the Barnstable Town Hall, Selectmen's Conference Room, 367 Main Street, Hyannis, MA. The meeting was called to order at 7:31 pm by Chairman Rich French.

Chairman:  
Richards French

Vice Chairman:  
William Carey

Board Members:  
Barbara Bell  
Lynn Heslinga  
Nate King  
George Muhlebach  
Peter Sampou

Council Liaisons:  
June Daley  
Ann Canedy

**Roll Call:**

- Board Members present: Barbara Bell, George Muhlebach, Pete Sampou, Bill Carey, and Rich French.
- Council Liaison: June Daley and Ann Canedy.
- Staff: Nina Coleman, Sandy Neck Park Manager, Matt Gough, Natural Resource Officer, and Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem.
- Public: Diane Lomba, Wendy Paquette, and Town Councilor Jan Barton.

**Act on Minutes:**

- On a **motion** by Barbara Bell seconded by Pete Sampou, the Sandy Neck Board voted to approve the December minutes as printed.

**Correspondence:**

- None

**Staff Report:**

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

- The gatehouse is open by appointment only and they are still selling ORV stickers [which are required year round].
- There were only four turtles stranded this year (less than previous years). There were less strandings capewide but that is probably due to the milder weather we have had so far this winter.
- The 2011 Sandy Neck deer hunt is over. A total of eight deer were taken (five bucks and three antlerless).
- Right now tree clearing is taking place on the trails.
- A contractor is working on re-siding the air shack and the gatehouse. Both buildings are also getting new windows.

The Board asked about the Sandwich Fee Proposal. Acting Town Manager Tom Lynch approved all Sandy Neck fee requests brought forward except the new proposal for a Resident Only Public Beach Sticker. Mr. Lynch decided to keep the same payment system that is now in place and to not implement the recommended new fee/permit for Sandwich residents. Mr. Lynch is planning to improve communications with Sandwich and to discuss the issue over the next year - hopefully reaching a compromise between the two towns. Nina Coleman explained that any shortage would come from surplus money; however, if all projections are met, there won't be a need to dip into surplus. Every year the budget is run with the assumption that they might not meet their goals which is why they have money in surplus. It is for emergencies. The Board was concerned about using surplus money for budgetary purposes.

**Old Business:**

***Marsh Trail Repair***

Nina Coleman explained that they are looking at the Marsh Trail/Trail 5 area for repair work this winter. The plan has been drafted by the Town Engineering Dept. If all goes as planned, the Notice of Intent will be heard at ConComm on January 31<sup>st</sup>. Any letters of support can be sent to Conservation prior to that meeting.

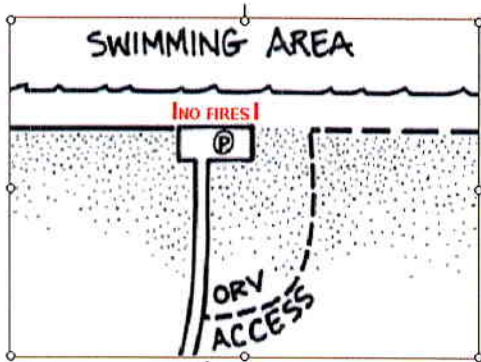
## New Business:

### *Campfires on Bodfish Beach*

Matt Gough addressed the Board and explained the following information regarding fires on Bodfish Beach.

### Current Bodfish Beach Fire Policy

No fires are allowed within the life guard protected area directly in front of the Sandy Neck parking lot

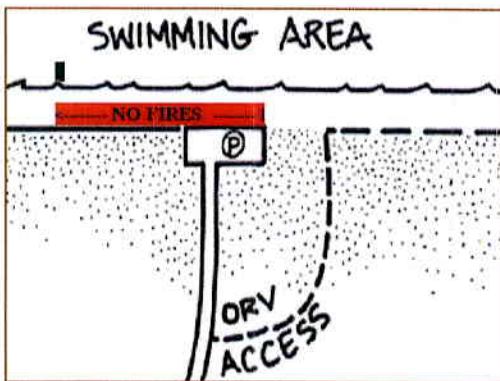


### Issues

- West side fires are beginning to encroach on endangered species habitat
  - Visitors cross into designated habitat
  - As usership rises the likelihood of disturbing endangered shorebirds increases
  - Litter can attract predators
- Policy is often confusing to the public resulting in unintentional violations
  - Visitors having fires often come after dark and cannot see "NO FIRE" signs
  - Visitors are not sure where the boundaries of the public beach are, despite signage
- Fires are often not extinguished properly leaving behind logs or buried hot coals

### Proposed Bodfish Beach Fire Policy

Camp fires allowed east of the public beach only



### Benefits

- Increased endangered species protection
- Increased clarity regarding proper placement of fires, resulting in reduced violations
- Increased safety due to a reduced amount of fires improperly extinguished
- Violations will be easily recognized streamlining patrols
- Bodfish beach will be cleaner

The new Bodfish Beach Fire Policy will be added to the Sandy Neck Beach Park Management Policies. The Sandy Neck Board is in support of this change.

### Public Comment:

- Wendy Paquette, MBBA, agreed the new policy was a great idea and asked if the new fees were approved. [Yes].

### Adjournment:

- There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie Lavoie, Secretary Pro Tem