

**Flight 93 Memorial Task Force
and
Flight 93 Advisory Commission
Briefing Reports
February 7, 2009**

Archives Briefing Report February 7, 2009

Prepared by: Barbara Black

Oral History and Documentation Project

Through Kathie Shaffer's continued efforts, the project now has 430 interviews since the first oral history was conducted in April 2005. 91 interviews are completely through the process of transcription, editing, writing an abstract, securing a signed release and placement in the archives. 252, 59% of the total oral histories, have been transcribed by 6 volunteers and Kathie.

130 interviews have been conducted with family members, friends and co-workers, representing 32 of the 40 passengers and crew on Flight 93. Several family members are working with Kathie to encourage other family to contribute the memory of their loved ones to the memorial. We have had success when one family member works closely with us to identify and contact other family, even reaching out to close friends and business associates. All of this is done with extreme sensitivity, knowing that for some, an oral history will still be difficult at this time. The door will always remain open.

Kathie and her traveling team has been invited to a DMORT Region III training on March 27-29 in Gettysburg to meet and record interviews with as many as 15-18 individuals who responded to Flight 93. DMORT, the Disaster Mortuary Operational Response Team, is a federal level response team designed to provide mortuary assistance in the case of a mass fatality incident. They work under the local jurisdictional authorities such as coroner/medical examiners, law enforcement and emergency managers.

Kathie and her team are also working on plans to return to eastern Pennsylvania and New Jersey this spring, and it is hope that Kathie can travel to San Francisco for the family meeting in May.

Collections

Visitors continue to leave tributes and messages even during the winter months, and these items are monitored by the volunteers and staff at the memorial, bringing them in when they begin to show signs of wear.

The conversion of the cataloged tributes to the National Park Service system is continuing with 5,500 items re-cataloged to-date (October 12, 2001 to May 2003). Professor Alexander Riley at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania, has offered to place summer interns at Flight 93 that would work with the collection or on the oral history project. Bucknell would provide them with a small stipend which would allow them to locate here for three months.

Government Relations Briefing Report February 7, 2009

Prepared by: Will Hollier

Federal Appropriations and Federal Funding

- Continual consultation with House and Senate appropriations staff and Pennsylvania Delegation regarding status of appropriations process and strategy for maintaining funding in FY09 appropriations bills.
- Confirmed funding for Memorial is included in Interior Appropriations Bill for an as-of-yet undetermined amount. This funding is in addition to \$3 million provided in the Transportation Bill.
- Researched protocol for securing funding for Memorial from economic stimulus legislation funds.
- Began researching and drafting FY10 appropriations applications.

Svonavec Land Appraisal Issue

- Significant role as intermediary between White House, Department of the Interior, Families of Flight 93 and Pennsylvania Delegation in Svonavec land appraisal and acquisition issue.
- Communicated Families concerns and frustration with Department of Interior's lack of attention to appraisal issue to Brian McCormack, Special Assistant to the President, Brian Waidman, Chief of Staff to Secretary Kempthorne, Doug Domenech, Deputy Chief of Staff to Secretary Kempthorne, Matt Eames, Director of Legislative Affairs Department of Interior.
- Provided daily if not more updates to federal officials, Families and Pennsylvania Delegation on progress and actions needed regarding Svonavec issue.
- Worked with Senators Specter and Congressman Shuster's office to contact Svonavec and urge him to accept NPS/Families offer.
- Met with Staff Directors of House and Senate Authorizing and Appropriation Committees to brief them on congressional approval needed for actions.
- Provided feedback and edits on Families' letters to former Secretary Kempthorne and President Bush. Ensured letters were elevated to key decision makers in government.

Congressional Plaque in United States Capitol

- Secured artist rendering of plaque honoring passengers and crew of Flight 93 and location in new Capitol Visitor's Center. Trying to secure timeline for unveiling.

Organization

- Weekly conference calls with Families and LAKPR to allocate tasks and responsibilities, ensure proper follow up to action items, and serve as strategy session

Communications Briefing Report February 7, 2009

Prepared by Lisa Linden, Linden Alschuler & Kaplan PR

I. Land Acquisition Issues

In order for the permanent Flight 93 Memorial to be ready for dedication on September 11, 2011 – the tenth anniversary of the heroes' sacrifice – it was critical to secure the core 275-acre Svonavec parcel in a timely manner.

A contentious stalemate had placed the achievement of that milestone in serious jeopardy. Working together, the leadership of the Families of Flight 93, The Flight 93 Memorial Task Force, the Flight 93 Memorial Commission and others determined a strategy seeking to engage the priority attention of the President and his Executive staff in the final days of the Bush Administration.

The goal was to put forth a call to action that would lead to the prompt settlement of the acquisition dispute, allowing the project to move forward.

Letter to President Bush

A letter was drafted to President Bush reflecting the views and positions of the Families of Flight 93 and the Flight 93 Advisory Commission. The letter, which sought President Bush's re-commitment to the goal of a September 11, 2011 dedication and urged his action before leaving office to help realize that goal, was delivered on December 9, 2008. The letter specifically requested that an Executive Order be issued to authorize eminent domain to address the land acquisition issue, to ensure that federal funding was in place and to expedite the processing of permits by government entities.

White Paper

The letter formed the basis for a white paper briefing document reflecting the views and opinions of the Families of Flight 93, the Flight 93 Memorial Task Force, the Flight 93 Memorial Commission and those to whom they reached out, designed to inform reporters and interested parties by bringing them up to date. Titled ***Preserving the Soaring Spirit of Flight 93***, its purpose was to set down in an informative and compelling narrative the urgency of moving forward now against the background of the stalled acquisition process, and the other needs including fundraising, wetlands permits and easements.

The briefing document had a positive impact on the process of generating media interest.

Media Stories

There was no response to the December 9 letter from President Bush's office. Prior letters to Secretary of the Interior Kempthorne had been met with silence, as well. A decision was therefore made to engage the media.

On December 28, the *Washington Post* published a front-page story titled "***Families Ask Bush to Seize Land Parcel for 9/11 Memorial***." The Washington Post reporter was able to get the White House on the record. The Washington Post reported, "The White House has yet to respond to the Dec. 9 letter, the families said. White House spokesman Peter Seat said the president is reviewing the request. 'The president recognizes the contributions of those working to memorialize the heroes of Flight 93 with a fitting tribute at the spot where they gave their lives to ensure that others would live,' Seat said."

The article was picked up by several other media outlets including the *Houston Chronicle*, the *Wichita (KS) Eagle*, the *Kansas City (KA) Star*, the *Seattle Times*, the *Mercury News (CA)*, the *News Tribune of Tacoma (WA)*, the *Columbus (OH) Dispatch*, the *San Diego Union-Tribune*, the *Journal Gazette of Fort Wayne (IN)*, and *Fort Wayne.com*.

The *Associated Press* then ran a story titled: “*Flight 93 Families Ask Bush To OK Land Seizure.*” This story received extensive media coverage around the nation and the world. Many outlets carried the story online and in print, on television and radio including:

13WHAM-TV, Rochester NY
 33 KDAF-TV, Dallas, TX
 6abc.com, Phila., PA
 ABC 4, Salt Lake City
 ABC15.com (KNXV-TV), Phoenix, AZ
 Allentown Morning Call, PA
 Anchorage Daily News, AK
 AOL News Newsbloggers, VA
 Arkansas Online, AR
 Baltimore Examiner, MD
 Belleville News-Democrat, MO
 Biloxi Sun Herald, Miss
 Boston Herald
 Bradenton Herald, FL
 Buffalo News, NY
 Carlisle Sentinel, PA
 CBS 2, LA CA
 CBS 21, Harrisburg PA
 CBS 3, Phila., PA
 CBS 4, Miami FL
 CBS 42, Austin TX
 CBS 5 - Green Bay, WI
 CBS News, NY
 CBS13.com, Sacramento, Ca.
 CBS2 Chicago
 cbs4denver.com, CO
 cbs4qc.com, Rock Island, IL
 Charleston Gazette, WV
 Chicago Tribune, IL
 Columbus Ledger-Enquirer, GA
 Contra Costa Times, CA
 Daily Mail, Charleston WV
 Danbury News Times, CT
 Danville News, PA
 Durham Herald Sun, NC
 El Paso Times, TX
 Enterprise-Record, CA
 First Coast News, FL
 Fort Wayne Journal Gazette, IN
 Fort Worth Star Telegram, TX
 Fox 28, South Bend, IN
 Fox News
 Ch 5 Fox, NY
 Fox40, Sacramento, CA
 Fremont News Messenger, OH
 Fresno Bee, CA
 GMA news.tv, Philippines
 GoErie.com, PA
 Greeley Tribune, CO

Herald Zeitung, TX
 Hillsboro Argus/OregonLive.com
 Houston Chronicle, TX
 IBTimes, Australia
 Indopia, India
 InsideBayArea.com, CA
 International Herald Tribune
 Jackson Sun, TN
 KAALtv.com, Austin, MN
 KAIT, Jonesboro, AR
 Kansas City Star, MO
 KDBC, El Paso, TX
 KDKA, Pittsburgh, PA
 KDWN-AM, Las Vegas, NV
 Kentucky.com
 KESQ, Palm Springs, CA
 KFDA, Amarillo, TX
 KFSM, Fort Smith, AR
 KFVS, Cape Girardeau, MO
 KIVI-TV, Boise, ID
 KJCT8.com, Colorado Springs
 KLTV, Tyler, TX
 KMPH Fox 26, Fresno, CA
 KMTR Eugene, OR
 KNDO/KNDU, Yakima, WA
 KOAM-TV, Joplin, KS
 KOLD-TV, Tucson, AZ
 KPAX-TV, Missoula, MT
 KPLC-TV, Lake Charles LA
 KPTM-TV, Omaha NE
 KRDO, Colorado Springs, CO
 KRIS-TV, Corpus Christi, TX
 KSBY, San Luis Obispo, CA
 KSL-TV, Salt lake City, UT
 KSWT-TV, Yuma, AZ
 KTAR.com, Phoenix, AZ
 KTIV, Sioux City, IA
 KTLA, Los Angeles, CA
 KTNV, Las Vegas, NV
 KTRV, Boise, ID
 KTTC, Rochester, MN
 KTUU, Anchorage, AK
 KTVN, Reno, NV
 KTVZ, Central OR
 KUTV, Salt Lake City, UT
 KVIA, El Paso, TX
 KVOA.com, Tucson, AZ
 KWCH, Wichita, KS
 KWGN, Denver, CO
 KXMB, Bismarck ND

KXXV News Channel 25, Waco, TX
 KYPOST.com, KY
 Las Cruces Sun-News, NM
 Las Vegas Sun, NV
 Lebanon Daily News, PA
 Live 5 News, Charleston, SC
 LocalNews8.com, Idaho Falls, ID
 LehighValleyLive.com, PA
 Marin Independent-Journal, CA
 Midwest Ag Net, IL
 Minneapolis Star Tribune, MN
 MLive.com, MI
 Montana's News Station, MT
 Monterey County Herald, CA
 MSNBC
 Pittsburg Morning Sun, KS
 Muncie Star Press, IN
 News & Observer, NC
 News24, South Africa
 Newswatch 50, Watertown, NY
 NewsWest9.com, Midland, TX
 NTV, NE
 Philadelphia Inquirer
 Port Clinton News Herald, OH
 Reading Eagle, PA
 Reiten Television KXMB
 Bismarck, ND
 Rock Hill Herald, SC
 Rocky Mount Telegram, NC
 Sacramento Bee, USA
 San Diego 6, CA
 San Diego Union Tribune, CA
 San Jose Mercury News, CA
 San Luis Obispo Tribune, CA
 Santa Cruz Sentinel, CA
 Seattle Times
 Sun-Sentinel.com, FL
 Taiwan News, Taiwan
 The Associated Press
 The Columbian, WA
 The Daily Advance, NC
 The Daily Item
 The Evening Sun, PA
 The Express Times -
 The Olympian, WA
 The Oregonian, OR
 The Plain Dealer -
 Cleveland.com, OH

The Post-Standard -
Syracuse.com, NY
The San Francisco Examiner
The Southern Ledger, TN
Trend News Agency, Azerbaijan
Tri Valley Herald, CA
WAAY, Huntsville, AL
WAFB, Baton Rouge, LA
WAND, Decatur, IL
WAOW, Wausau, WI
Washington Examiner, DC
Washington Observer Reporter, Pa
Wichita Eagle, KS
WBAY, Green Bay, WI
WBOC TV 16, Salisbury, MD
WBTV, Charlotte, NC
WBXH, Baton Rouge, LA
WCPO, Cincinnati, OH
WCTV, Tallahassee, FL
WDAM-TV, Laurel, MS
WDBJ7.com, Roanoke, VA
WFLX Fox 29, West Palm Beach,
FL
WFMY News 2, Greensboro, NC
WGBA-TV, Green Bay, WI
WGN, Chicago, IL
WHO-TV, Des Moines, IA
WIS, Columbia, SC
WKBT, La Crosse, WI
WKOW-TV.com, WI
WLBT-TV, Jackson MS
WLNS, Lansing, MI
WOI, Des Moines, IA
WOKV, Jacksonville, FL
Worcester Telegram, MA
WPRI, Providence, RI
WQOW TV, Eau Clair, WI.
WRAL.com, Fayetteville, NC
WRCB-TV, Chattanooga, TN
WREX-TV, Rockford, IL
WRNN, Kingston, NY
WTOP- FM, Washington, DC
WTVM, Columbus, GA
WWSB ABC 7 Sarasota, FL
WXOW.com, La Crosse,
Wisconsin
WXVT, Greenville, MS
York Daily Record, PA

The first editorial on the subject appeared on December 30 in the *Daily Item* of Sunbury, PA entitled “*Settle land dispute now.*”

Local stories appeared in the *Tribune-Democrat* (first story December 29, with editorials on December 31, 2008; January 2, 2009, and a follow-up article January 3, 2009). While all the articles emphasized the need for progress, they also reflected concerns raised by the landowner, Svonavec, Inc.

On January 9, the *AP* reported that a new offer from the National Parks Service was imminent. This story was carried online and in print by media throughout Pennsylvania, including *the Democrat-Tribune*, *Somerset Daily American*, the *Wilkes-Barre Times Leader*, the *Pittsburgh Tribune-Review*, the *Evening Sun*, the *York Daily Record*, and the *Lebanon Daily News*.

On January 10, the *New York Times* published a story titled “*Flight 93 Families reach out to Bush*” which discussed the land issue, as well as the imminent offer.

On January 16, a story ran in the *Somerset Daily American* saying the National Park Service had conveyed a new offer and appraisal to Svonavec.

At approximately 11:30pm on January 16, LAKPR and the National Park Service sent out press release on behalf of the National Park Service, the Families of Flight 93 and Svonavec, Inc. announcing a breakthrough agreement that allows timely development to move forward. It grants NPS access to the site to conduct all necessary activity needed to plan and construct the memorial while letting the court determine a final valuation of the property. As part of the deal, Svonavec also offered to donate the approximately 6-acre impact site.

An *Associated Press* wire story titled “*Deal reached on Flight 93 crash site in W. Pa.*” began to be picked up by hundreds of media outlets around the country and the world just before midnight on January 16. *The Washington Post*, the *Democrat-Tribune*, the *Somerset Daily American* all posted stories on the agreement on their websites. On Sunday, January 18, the *New York Times* ran a story in its National section, “teased” on the front page, titled “*Land Deal Is Reached for a 9/11 Memorial.*” The *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette* ran a story on January 18 titled “*How much is the Flight 93 crash site worth?*”

Over the course of the next week, there were editorials in the *Tribune-Democrat*, the *Daily American*, and the *Charleston Post and Courier* expressing relief that a deal was reached and the need to move forward.

On Sunday, January 25, the *New York Times* had an editorial titled “*Price Haggling at a 9/11 Grave Site*” praising the efforts to finally break to the deadlock.

II. Beyond the Logjam

While the status of the land acquisition process will govern immediate next steps, it is still only one part of the story to be told. The goal is to create a crucible within which the memorial can be completed.

We will seek to take the positive momentum of the last few weeks to portray a more complete picture of the lessons of Flight 93 and the importance of having a memorial, remembering the heroes, completing the land acquisition and construction of the memorial. All of these messages will be crafted with an eye toward looking for ways to help further the fundraising goals of the memorial. A particular effort will be made to understand and work closely with the government affairs and development staff in order to

complement their efforts to raise vital funds through federal and state governments as well as private fundraising initiatives.

Important milestones over the coming months such as the final property acquisition or the 1,000,000th visitor will also be noted as we prepare for activities leading up to and on September 11, 2009.

Whatever the avenue, the core message of remembering the heroes, and the need to keep the promise that was made to have an evocative and worthy memorial to be dedicated on September 11, 2011, will continue to guide and inform all aspects of any informational effort.

The urgent need to raise funds to complete the memorial – and the need to tie-in our themes and stories to the fundraising effort through public relations, cannot be overstated. These are historic time – for the economy and for our project. We will work with all the partners to develop a strategy to meet the challenges ahead.

Temporary Memorial Briefing Report February 7, 2009

Prepared by: Adam Shaffer

Volunteer Trip To Pentagon Memorial

On Saturday, November 15, twenty six volunteers and the NPS staff traveled by bus to the Pentagon Memorial, in Arlington, VA, where we were joined by Flight 93 family members and our friends from the National Park Foundation. We were introduced to Andrew Ammerman, Director of the Pentagon Memorial Fund and Jim Laychak, President of the Pentagon Memorial Fund, whose brother David Laychak, perished in the attack there. Our volunteers were appreciative of the personalized tour of the Memorial, which is not offered to visitors at this time. After spending the morning at the Pentagon Memorial and learning about their memorial process, our group boarded the bus for the National Mall, in Washington, D.C. Our volunteers had the opportunity to tour the mall for the afternoon before returning to Shanksville in the evening. This educational field trip has yielded new relationships, and the potential for partnership. We have already begun working cooperatively with the Pentagon Memorial by sharing resource materials from the Flight 93 volunteer program to help in the development of a volunteer program at the Pentagon Memorial.

Visitation

December was a record month at the memorial in more than one way. With the exception of the visitor totals in December 2006, December 2008 was a record high month for visitors to the memorial-2,595 visitors counted. December was also the launch of the Junior Ranger Program at the temporary memorial. While still in the initial stage, the program has been warmly received by both children and adults. As 2008 ended, more than 136,091 visitors had journeyed to the memorial over the past year. During that time, 439 buses made Flight 93 National Memorial a stop, just two less than our 2007 total. From our early conservative visitor estimates the NPS calculates that more than 997,143 visitors have come to the temporary memorial. This means that in the year 2009, we can expect to welcome our 1,000,000th counted visitor to the memorial. This number does not account for the additional visitors who come to the memorial before and after the presence of volunteers and staff.

Weather

As January began, volunteers and staff were challenged by some of the most extreme weather conditions Somerset County has to offer. This included three significant ice storms and an extreme cold spell with temperatures dipping to -19° F before wind-chill outdoors and -1° inside the shelter on one Saturday morning. It's the cold weeks like these, that remind us of the generosity of Ferrell Gas, who continues to provide propane free of charge for our heater.

Signage

January was also a first at the memorial for the posting of information outdoors. The NPS staff drafted and prepared two bulletin board pieces for the bulletin board case outside the shelter. The bulletins include information about hours of operation, the program offered by the Ambassadors, the availability of the passport stamp and Junior Ranger Program. They also offer orientation for first-time visitors who may not know where the impact site is located, and will be especially helpful to visitors at the times when the memorial is not staffed.

Volunteers

Our spring training series for the volunteer program will begin on February 7th with training in first aid and CPR. Other trainings we plan to offer this spring include a panel discussion with first responders for Q & A and the release of declassified information from the FBI. Since my last report, we've welcomed

two new volunteers, Charlotte Jones & Jill Keating, both serving as transcriptionists for the oral history project. I've also had contact with two groups interested in volunteering for a work day at the memorial. We hope to provide opportunities to these groups as soon as the weather breaks. The NPS office will be planning a volunteer work day to repair the walking surface at the memorial and to address other maintenance needs, for the summer season.

**Interpretation Briefing Report
Briefing Report
February 7, 2009**

University Partnerships

The Academic Research Team of the Flight 93 Primary Interpretive Themes Project has successfully reached some milestones in the project. The following table shows the extensive work accomplished:

RESOURCE	TEAM MEMBERS	DATA	PRODUCT
Flight 93 Oral Histories	Portland State University: Prof. Eric Mankowski and graduate students	40 completed oral history transcripts	40 oral histories coded for analysis two times by two different individuals
Tribute Comment Cards	University of Pennsylvania: Prof. Alan Barstow and graduate students	351 comments cards that were left at the temporary memorial by visitors	351 cards coded for analysis two times by two different individuals (more cards may coded at least once before analysis is complete)
Conversational Groups – Flight 93 Temporary Memorial Visitors	University of Pennsylvania: Prof. Alan Barstow and graduate students Flight 93 staff/volunteers	24 conversations on two weekends: July 17-19 and October 10-11, 2008 representing 93 visitors	24 conversations transcribed and coded two times

A final report of analysis is expected by March 31, 2009.

The analysis will provide a comparison of the interpretive themes as outlined in the Flight 93 National Memorial Mission Statement which were written in 2004. Main themes and sub-themes will be identified according to the meaning and relevancy placed on them by our visitor and partners. This will then form the framework for the Interpretive Plan of the permanent Memorial.

NPS Land Acquisition Briefing Report
February 7, 2009

Prepared by: NPS Lands Office, Region 5; Philadelphia

Following is an update of National Park Service (NPS) land acquisition activities at Flight 93 National Memorial (FLNI) since the Commission/Task Force meeting, November 1, 2008.

- Svonavec (01-102) property. On January 16, 2009, the National Park Service, Families of Flight 93, and Svonavec, Inc. jointly reached an agreement in principle to allow timely development of the property. The agreed-to process provides the National Park Service with access to the site and allows NPS to conduct activities necessary to plan and construct the National Memorial.
- NPS continues to work diligently with the Families of Flight 93 and legal counsel on title and survey matters related to the former PBS Coals property (Tracts 01-101 and 01-108). An appraisal is underway to value the property. A target for NPS acquisition is set for May 2009.
- NPS is working with the Kordells (Tract 01-100) to acquire their property and relocate Rollock, Inc., their recycling/salvage business. On January 20, 2009, a meeting was held on-site with NPS, Kordells, and relocation contractors. A relocation offer was presented to the Kordells which is now under consideration. A real estate appraisal update and an environmental site assessment are being procured.
- NPS is also working with The Conservation Fund (Tract 01-124) to acquire the mineral interests formerly owned by PBS Coals. An appraisal has been completed. NPS is awaiting receipt of the appraisal report.
- As soon as title issues are resolved on the former Mock property (Tract 01-114), NPS will acquire the property from the Families of Flight 93, who are the current owners.
- NPS is in the process of procuring appraisals for other properties within the boundary of the National Memorial.
- The Lands Oversight Committee continues to hold monthly conference calls to report on FLNI land acquisition progress and current events for the benefit of the committee, the partners, and NPS in an effort to ensure continued communication and coordination.

The Conservation Fund Land Acquisition Report Report
February 7, 2009

Prepared by: Todd McNew

In addition approximately 350 acres of land added to the new State Game Land 93 (SGL93) in recent years, both The Conservation Fund (TCF) and the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) continue to actively talk to other landowners to the north about additional parcels that could be incorporated into SGL93. TCF is working with the Families of Flight 93 to assist with the transfer of a 67-acre former PBS Coal tract to the PGC for inclusion into SGL93. SGL93 serves as a buffer for the Memorial and complements the work of the NPS.

TCF continues to hold three subsurface mineral parcels which partially underlie the southern portion of the Memorial. We hope to complete the take-out sale of these rights by mid-2009, using a portion of the \$5.0 million that the administration approved. The NPS appraisal process is near completion.

Looking forward, TCF effort will focus on the take-out sale of mineral parcels to NPS and the SGL93 effort. We also look forward to fulfilling an as-needed advisory role for further acquisition efforts by the Families and the NPS.

Memorial Design Briefing Report February 7, 2009 Meeting

Prepared by Jodie Peterson, Paul Murdoch and Joanne Hanley

Wetlands/Permits

The memorial design purposefully goes through the pond area/wetlands on the Svonavec property below the temporary memorial. The wetland design is specifically symbolic of the healing of the land as a strip mind, the impact site, as well as the healing of a nation. The NPS is diligently working on the permitting process with the Army Corps of Engineers, the PA Dept of Environmental Protection (DEP), and the design team.

- A wetland pre-application meeting was held on November 13, 2008 with Army Corps of Engineers, PADEP, NPS, and design team staff members to present the Flight 93 Memorial project and update agencies concerning history, scope, and current status – and to discuss potential issues with the permitting agencies.
- In December, the design team also held a pre-application meeting with the Somerset County Conservation District's Erosion & Sediment Pollution Control Technician and issued a report summarizing preliminary storm water management requirements.
- Currently, a preliminary delineation of the wetlands has been done by “desk delineation” only, as site access to the property for testing was not permitted.
- Two additional meetings in January have occurred between the NPS and Army Corps of Engineers to discuss process and progress.
- At the present time, the design team is preparing alternatives for wetland impact avoidance, minimization and mitigation. Concurrently, the PA Fish and Boat Commission will conduct a survey to confirm the presence of wild trout in Grove Run.
- Final field delineation of the wetland by The Louis Berger Group, under contract with NPS, will occur in the spring once the ground has thawed, since the NPS will shortly have permission to access the property for testing of wetland soils, aquatic resources, vegetation, water quality, etc.
- Based on the wetland delineation and analysis, and the alternatives analysis, a draft “Statement of Findings,” as well as permit applications to submit to the Army Corps of Engineers, will be drafted and submitted by May.

Design Development

NPS authorized commencement of the Design Development Phase for Phase 1 on September 28. The design team presented mid-point DD progress in a webinar with NPS on November 18 – including review of grading, landscape, site utility, lighting, and architectural issues.

Subsequent discussion was held several times in December with the NPS, and addressed proposed design refinement of the Sacred Ground memorial wall, the Arrival Court, and the Ambassador shelter. Pending full resolution of all comments, the refinements will be approved.

The design team completed and submitted draft Design Development documents for Phase 1A – excluding the wetlands portion of the work – in December. NPS requested that the design team provide additional materials, refining design intent and cost for the proposed storm water management measures. Final configuration of these improvements is contingent on completion of wetland delineation – which in turn is contingent on ability to access remaining areas of the project site.

The DDs have been extensively reviewed by the Denver Service Center project team members and the park; the comments have been consolidated and sent to the design team.

NPS issued the third draft geotechnical report incorporating Ring Road portions of the site on January 20. The design team is reviewing the report and will develop comments and recommendations for additional testing in newly accessible site areas.

Progress on the DDs was presented to the DOC on December 15 and January 19. Their comments were also included in the review sent back to the architect.

Construction Documents

Construction Document (CD) phase work is scheduled to be completed for a June submittal, in preparation for a September 2009 construction award. DSC is preparing a task order authorization for negotiation with the architect.

Fundraising and Capital Campaign Briefing Report February 7 2009

Prepared by: King Laughlin

The recent announcement regarding the Flight 93 crash site is a welcome boost for the Flight 93 National Memorial and a timely boost to Capital Campaign outreach efforts. There are now 44,000 Founding Sponsors donating to the Campaign, from every state and more than a dozen nations, with each gift bringing us one step closer to attaining our first major fundraising goal.

CAMPAIGN SUMMARY

Funds raised for the campaign stand at \$13.6 million through the quarter ending December 31, 2008. This total includes just over \$11.5 million allocated toward the first phase private fundraising goal of \$15 million established by the National Park Service. This funding will enable groundbreaking at the Sacred Ground and Field of Honor. Recent new contributions of note include a \$100,000 gift from an anonymous donor, \$53,000 from Oracle, and \$8,000 from Mitsubishi Electric Products.

CULTIVATION AND SOLICITATION

The Campaign operates across many fronts involving leadership, family members, volunteers, and staff, and initiatives to cultivate and solicit donors for gifts to support the Memorial are ongoing. The Campaign is seeking formalization of several verbal commitments, and a number of proposals are still outstanding. Honorary Campaign Co-Chairmen Governor Tom Ridge and General Tommy Franks and Campaign Chairman Chris Sullivan are active participants in identifying and soliciting donors and together have issued several targeted appeals for major donations centering on the Sacred Ground. We are also preparing a range of large-gift proposals that specifically describe donor opportunities related to memorial features, education, and environmental responsibility. Strong media coverage recently has also helped to open doors to new prospective donors.

Members of the National Campaign Steering Committee continue to support fundraising efforts to build the memorial. Committee members help reach out to corporate and individual prospects and conduct localized and community fundraising programs with schools, sports teams, and service organizations.

PARTNERSHIPS

American Forests, a non-profit organization that promotes the forestry, and the U.S. Forest Service have agreed to partner with the Campaign to donate funding and provide technical expertise to help place trees at the Flight 93 National Memorial. The partnership will focus on tree plantings within the memorial design, such as the 40 Memorial Groves. The partnership will start this year and include a promotional campaign.

CAMPAIGN COMMUNICATIONS

The second issue of the Campaign newsletter, *93 Remembered: Honoring the Heroes of Flight 93*, mailed to over 20,000 Founding Sponsors, prospective donors, and friends of the Flight 93 National Memorial and featured coverage of the September 11 commemorative activities and a special message from the Director of the National Park Service. The third issue is in final production and will be distributed in late February.

The website, www.honorflight93.org, ended the year with just over 61,000 unique visits and over 330,000 page views. On average, website visitors spend just over three minutes viewing approximately one-quarter of the site. About 550 on-line donations were received during 2008.

In early December, the Campaign mailed holiday cards to approximately 3,000 donors who had made gift of \$250 or more. In late January, the Campaign mailed letters announcing the lands agreement to approximately 250 donors who had made a gift of \$1,000 or more.

OF FURTHER NOTE

The Campaign continues to assist Family member Ken Nacke with planning for “Ride With The Forty,” a historic cross-country motorcycle ride from Newark, NJ to San Francisco, CA to complete the original journey of the passengers and crewmembers of Flight 93. Under the banner “5 Riders, 8 Days, 40 Heroes” the Ride will raise funds to build the memorial by challenging supporters to sponsor \$93 per mile for the 3,000 mile trek. A dedicated website with information and sponsorship opportunities for the Ride will debut in mid-February.

The Campaign is preparing to hire a new staff member to focus on grassroots fundraising, community engagement, and special projects. Through a dedicated program and targeted outreach strategies, we intend to build a national network of communities, organizations, and individuals working to raise funds, organize and participate in events, and increase awareness for the memorial.

SUMMARY

We are at the threshold of a truly exciting year for the Flight 93 Campaign. With a fundraising goal within reach and a solid base of core messages, we will actively seek and solicit new donors, both large and small, that ensures the Campaign is ready to support groundbreaking for the Flight 93 National Memorial.