

Flight 93 Advisory Commission

Briefing Reports

October 22, 2004

Resource Assessment Committee Report

Memorandum

To: Flight 93 Task Force Co-Chairs

From: Randall D. Cooley, Chair-Resource Assessment Committee

Re: Summary Report of the Flight 93 Task Force Resource Assessment Committee

Date: October 13, 2004

Summary Report of the Flight 93 Task Force Resource Assessment Committee

Members:

Tim Baird
Randall Cooley, Chair
Donna Glessner
Esther Heymann
Paula Knacke Jacobs
Ken Knacke
Tim Lambert
Randy Musser
Linda Radzvin
Chuck Wagne
Michael Watson
Patrick White
Barry Zaffutto

A mission and goals were initially established for the benefit of the members' guidance of the Resource Assessment Committee as follows:

"The mission of the Resource Assessment Committee is to connect the story of Flight 93 to the resources surrounding the impact site and to use those connections to focus the boundary identification and land acquisition efforts for the National Memorial."

- *It is a goal of the Resource Assessment Committee to understand the Flight 93 story and that story's impact on the residents, family members, the nation, the landscape and local property owners.*
- *It is a further goal of the Resource Assessment Committee to evaluate acquisition alternatives and to assess their effectiveness for telling the Flight 93 story and their contribution to the resident-defined quality-of-life improvement.*
- *It is a further goal of the Resource Assessment Committee to monitor the land acquisition efforts of the National Park Service and The Conservation Fund.*

The Committee held monthly phone conferences to accomplish its mission and goals. In addition, members of the Resource Assessment Committee toured the site on two occasions with the resources needed to do an appropriate boundary valuation.

Plans for accomplishing the mission began with acquiring aerial topographic information and participation with Stonycreek Township in comprehensive planning to identify scenic and conservation easement strategies that protect the resources related to Flight 93. Within the first few months, the Resource Assessment Committee had accomplished the following:

- Requested and received \$26,000 from the Commission's Statutory Aid fund for Army Corps of Engineer contract to fly over, survey and prepare 2' contour maps of the 'triangle,' which is bounded by Route 30, Buckstown Road, and Lambertsville Road.
- Completed a visual assessment to study the lands south of the impact site to determine priority resource protection needs.
- Coordinated participation with Ed McMahon of The Conservation Fund to give a presentation to the Task Force on the impacts of a new park to the community and on adjacent lands.
- Completed the DCNR application for funding and recommended the applicant name be changed to *Families of Flight 93* as they are now a designated 501(c)3 organization, with federal funds matching the grant.
- The Conservation Fund purchased the draglines. The Conservation Fund intends on erecting fencing around the structures for insurance purposes.

The recommended acreage count within the boundary is 2,115. The recommended boundary map presented to the Commission on July 30 is attached. The map shows the boundary areas shaded green. The land available for the design competition will be depicted on an aerial photo and be limited to the areas shaded light green. The areas shaded orange could be revisited when there is more public input during the management plan process. It was agreed that the recommended boundary map given to the commission would be numbered to avoid future confusion among the several maps that have been reviewed.

The National Park Service will develop management planning data. All contracts are in place with the sub-consultants and site visits have begun. The first products from the studies will be resource and constraints maps. The LIDAR mapping is proceeding.

All landowners within the working boundary have been briefed and all will be kept updated on acquisition progress. The county commissioners have also been briefed.

The National Park Service will check to make sure PENNDOT has contacted the local LDD and that improvements at the entrance can be added to their 4-year plan.

The first two goals of the Resource Assessment Committee have been completed. Acquisition priorities and roles are established and, with the acceptance of the boundary by the Secretary of the Interior and the Congress, the National Park Service acquisition teams can proceed. The third goal of the Committee, monitoring of the land acquisition efforts of the National Park Service and The Conservation Fund, is ongoing.

The Resource Assessment Committee, recognizing the importance of ongoing monitoring of land acquisition efforts continues to fulfill this goal. However, a General Management Planning

Committee has been formed and monitoring of the land acquisition would compliment the responsibilities of this newly created committee.

Motion:

The Resource Assessment Committee respectfully recommends reassignment of the monitoring effort to the General Management Planning Committee, thereby bringing to a close the Resource Assessment Committee's participation in the planning of the Flight 93 Memorial. We also respectfully recommend dissolution of the Resource Assessment Committee.

Respectfully,
Randall D. Cooley, Chair
Resource Assessment Committee

**NPS Land Acquisition Update
for the
Flight 93 Advisory Commission
October 22, 2004**

On July 30, 2004, the Flight 93 Advisory Commission passed Resolution 0401 recommending to the Secretary of the Interior a boundary for the Flight 93 National Memorial as prescribed by Public Law 107-226 (116 STAT. 1345), also known as the Flight 93 National Memorial Act. Within this boundary are fifty-two Somerset County property tax parcels, one right-of-way, three sub-surface mineral tracts, one donated parcel outside the park boundary, and one cultural resource (the drag lines).

The National Park Service, Northeast Region's cartographic staff is working exclusively on the Flight 93 National Memorial project to establish the legal descriptions for the additional thirty one parcels identified July 30, 2004 for inclusion in the final park boundary by the Flight 93 Advisory Commission. A "legal description" of land is a description of real property by metes and bounds. Such a description must be complete enough that a particular parcel of land can be located and identified and sufficient for the NPS Lands mapping program.

The first phase of deed research has been completed. Additional research will be required to address any title issues which may arise in the course of the acquisitions. Both the National Park Service realty staff and The Conservation Fund continue negotiations with core land owners to resolve property title issues and appraisal issues. Numerous discussions with landowners' attorney have been made in an attempt to move forward with the land acquisition process.

Three industrial moving contractors have submitted bids for the relocation of personal property for PBS Coals, Inc. and Rollock, Inc. All three firms have expressed their desire to work on the Flight 93 National Memorial because of their national pride and as one contractor wrote, "to honor what so few of our fellow Americans did for so many".

On September 30, 2004, the President of the United States signed H.J. Res. 107 (Public Law 108-309), providing continuing appropriations for ongoing government operations. This Continuing Resolution provides the National Park Service with temporary funding at the same level as the fiscal year 2004 budget. Constitutionally, the government cannot spend money without funds being appropriated by Congress. This Continuing Resolution will extend the current level of operations in the National Park Service until the enactment of the FY05 Interior Appropriations Bill or the expiration of the Continuing Resolution on November 20, 2004.

(NPS and Conservation Fund charts and graphs are in the package being sent fed ex. These excel files are very large).

GENERAL MANAGEMENT PLAN / EIS
Briefing Report
Flight 93 Advisory Commission
October 22, 2004

I. PROJECT SCHEDULE – The project is on track. We are following the revised integrated planning process (approved May 14, 2004 meeting) and meeting the deadlines in the detailed schedule (presented at July 30, 2004). No changes to the schedule are necessary.

II. GMP COORDINATING COMMITTEE – The committee met on October 6, 2004. The purpose of the committee is to coordinate the work of the GMP with that of the other Task Force committees and community initiatives. The committee will ensure the facts, findings, and decisions in the GMP are consistent with the work of the other committees. The committee will also identify ways residents can best participate in the development of the GMP.

The committee discussed NPS park planning policies, reviewed an outline of a typical General Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement (GMP/EIS), and discussed the initial data gathering work that has been done to support the design competition and provide background information for the GMP.

In the coming weeks the committee will review draft data gathering studies and a preliminary issues paper. The committee will meet on the first Wednesday of each month.

III. LAND USE PLANNING FOR COMMUNITIES NEAR THE NATIONAL MEMORIAL – On September 20, 2004 the Somerset County Commissioners met with township supervisors of the jurisdictions near and on the possible routes to the memorial (Stonycreek Twp, Quemahoning Twp, Somerset Twp, Jenner Twp, and Shade Twp). The group invited Anna Breinich of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and Jeff Reinbold to speak with the group about the creation of the memorial and land use planning choices. The group agreed to meet again and asked for more information on funding opportunities and partnership possibilities with others such as the Lincoln Highway National Heritage Corridor.

IV. DATA GATHERING & MAPPING – The GMP consultant team has been completing their data gathering studies. An overview of the studies and preliminary issues will be provided at the October Commission meeting.

The solid terrain model of the national memorial arrived in early September. The model will be on display at the Commission meeting.

V. MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

None

**Design Solicitation Committee
Briefing Report
Flight 93 Advisory Commission
October 22, 2004**

STATUS OF DESIGN COMPETITION

With the competition being officially launched on September 11th, the competition packets are being mailed to registrants. As of October 13th there have been over 800 registrations received.

The first of 3 site tours for registrants was held Thursday October 21st. The tour began at the Somerset Historical Society and is much like the tours that have been given for the commissioners, family members, ambassadors, and the media tour that was given on September 11th. The tours are in place so the registrants can familiarize themselves with the local area, the proposed boundary, and the terrain. The remaining two site tours will be held on November 13 and December 4.

REQUEST FOR MOTIONS

The Advisory Commission approves the Design Competition Stage 1 jury selection as recommended by the Design Solicitation Committee.

(The Commission will receive the names of the jury nominees at the pre-briefing the morning of the meeting).

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE
Briefing Report
Flight 93 Advisory Commission
October 22, 2004

MEMORIAL TRIBUTES COLLECTION:

Tributes left at the Temporary Memorial were numerous in the months preceding and following September 11th this year. Visitors are still leaving objects of meaning and heartfelt messages. Fourteen bound books and hundreds of 4" x 6" cards have been filled with notes and names of people across the country and the world. The collection is now estimated at 20,000 objects. About one-fourth (5,526 items), are cataloged and housed in appropriate storage for long-term preservation.

ORAL HISTORY AND DOCUMENTATION PROJECT:

Alexa Potter began her position as Oral History and Documentation Project Coordinator on August 23, 2004. The Archives Committee briefing report to the Advisory Commission for July highlighted Ms. Potter's experience in the collection of oral histories and archival documentation, having served as a research historian at the United State Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.

The Archives Committee has met with Alexa twice. On September 8, Alexa presented a brief plan, summarizing the foundation for the project which will include the addition to the committee of three people with significant experience in the oral history field.

Joan Ringelheim, Director of the Oral History Program at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, D.C.; Dr. Jonathan Friedman, Director of Holocaust and Genocide Studies at West Chester University in West Chester, PA; and Jessica Wiederhorn, Assistant Director of the Oral History Research Office at Columbia University, NY have agreed to participate in the project, providing guidance and suggestions.

A number of universities in several locations across the country will be contacted for their involvement of graduate students in the interviewing process. This will provide an academic approach to the project to aid future researchers, as well as manpower to complete the many contacts necessary to include everyone's story.

With assistance from members of the Archives Committee at the September 21 meeting, a computer database has been started with a listing of organizations and individuals who had any involvement with Flight 93 on September 11, 2001 and after. Agencies and people were prioritized within three major categories: (1) The Event, (2) The Response, Recovery, and Investigation, and (3) The Memorialization and Documentation. The listing will be used in this first year of the project to collect interviews of high importance before much more time is lost. Six professional level recording machines have been purchased for the project which will be used by the project coordinator and trained volunteers. The universities that choose to become involved in the project will use their own equipment as long as the method complies with the project goals.

In the next few weeks, Ms. Potter will present a Plan of Methodology to the Archives Committee. The project will use the National Park Service Handbook for Oral History (June 2004 draft) as a

guideline in determining policy and procedures, following established methods suggested by the NPS. The Plan of Methodology will include the procedures and timeline needed to begin the oral histories. An action plan of tasks and assignments will be designed.

Prepared by:
Barbara Black
Chair, Archives Committee of the Flight 93 Task Force

**Temporary Memorial Management Committee
Briefing Report
Flight 93 Advisory Commission
October 22, 2004**

- I. Visitation for the past three months (August, September, and a portion of October) has averaged 4,500 per week, not including the week of September 11 when we estimate that over 8,000 people visited the site. Motorcoach traffic has been particularly heavy in the past two months. In September, 55 motorcoaches visited the site, and in just the first ten days of October, 32 buses visited here. Many of the motorcoach groups are combining this stop with travel to Gettysburg, Lancaster, and Washington D.C. The attached chart illustrates changes in visitation for the first 9.5 months of 2004.

Visitors we speak with at the site continue to represent varied interest and age groups: school children, senior citizens, veterans, high school and college sports teams, vacationing families, business travelers, conventioners from nearby resorts, motorcyclists, active-duty military, and day travelers from Washington D.C., Pittsburgh, Eastern Pennsylvania, and Ohio making this their sole destination. In recent months we have met persons who lost family members at the World Trade Center, Pentagon survivors, grief counselors from the World Trade Center, numerous flight attendants and others in the aviation industry, staff of the 911 Commission, media from around the world, and state troopers, FBI, and ATF agents, and emergency workers who were part of the site investigation three years ago. We meet many people making their second, third, or fourth visit to the site.

- II. Ambassador Service – Forty-four volunteer Ambassadors work at the site, six of them routinely working 2 shifts per week, and twenty-four of them working at least one shift per week. The remainder serves on an as-needed basis, covering 1-3 shifts per month. Through October, the Ambassadors are on duty at the site from 10 AM to 6 PM on weekdays, and from 10 AM to dark on weekends. The Ambassadors have been provided with copies of the “9-11 Commission Report” and urged to incorporate its findings in their communication with visitors. Between May and October, more than 50,000 copies of the site brochure were distributed.

Since the last briefing, the Ambassadors spent a day at the Bruderhof Spring Valley Community in Farmington, PA, getting to know the students and their families, viewing the Flight 93 exhibit in their Peace Barn, and attending a training session on terrorism-awareness. The Ambassadors also attended the memorial service and press briefing on September 11. They have met with and received instructions from the Design Competition Consultants. Recently 35 of the Ambassadors participated in a driving tour of the entire Flight 93 National Memorial boundary, getting a first-hand look at the Haul Road, the vistas from various high points on the site, and the welding shop/command post complex. The group is planning a trip to view the Smithsonian traveling exhibit on September 11, “Bearing Witness to History”, now at the Heinz History Center in Pittsburgh. Each Ambassador has been provided with a hooded, blue nylon jacket with the Flight 93 embroidered logo to wear while working at the site through the spring and fall months.

- III. Maintenance Projects – Thanks to the efforts of Chuck Wagner and several other Ambassadors, the memorial benches have been refinished. Four additional benches were delivered by the Spring Valley students in early September, so that there are now 15 benches at the site, bearing the names of 29 passengers. The area was cleaned and mowed prior to September 11. Another major collection and cleaning will be done before winter weather begins. Arrangements have been made for snow removal for the coming months. A new flag was placed on the dragline by Chuck Wagner in September. This flag was provided by Congressman Shuster's office, with assistance from Representative Bastian. (The dragline flags are 10' x 15'.) The Stonycreek Township Supervisors have re-installed some missing directional signs. The signs were provided by the Somerset County Commissioners.
- IV. Upcoming Projects – With assistance from the National Park Service, the temporary shelter at the memorial will be improved with the addition of a ramped entrance. It is anticipated that the expansion and improvement of the parking area originally planned for 2004, will be accomplished in the spring of 2005. With approval of the 05 budget, we hope to advertise for bids in January in order to have a spring award and construction date. We will encourage local contractors to bid on this project.
- V. Challenges Faced: (1) Skyline Road is in need of repair and resurfacing; and (2) there is a need for more and larger directional signs leading to the temporary memorial.

**Communications Committee
Briefing Report
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October 22, 2004**

The Communications Committee has not met since the last Commission meeting.

Communications Consultant

- The Request for Proposal for a communications/public relations consultant was prepared and finalized by all the partners, but it did not go out, pending identification of funding.
- Joanne Hanley indicated that she was looking at possibly “re-programming” NPS funds from another project, but she did not receive permission to do so because the projects were so dissimilar.

Funding

- Hanley had a request from the Governor’s office to identify top priority funding needs that were not available from any other source. Hanley sent Governor Rendell a copy of the RFP for the communications /public relations consultant and indicated that funds were needed for this contract.
- On September 11, 2004, Governor Rendell announced that \$250,000 would be made available to the Advisory Commission for whatever projects needed funding, including the communications/pr consultant.
- Hanley worked with the Governor’s office, and was sent an application on October 14, 2004 to process the distribution of the funds. She has nearly completed the paperwork, and will submit it early in the week of October 24, 2005.

Contracting

- The grant will be made to the Advisory Commission. It is recommended that the Commission transfer the funding to the Families of Flight 93 for contracting purposes. The contract for the consultant should be managed as our other contracts.

Motions

The Commission approves the use of the \$250,000 grant from the Commonwealth for a communications/public relations consultant, and will immediately issue the RFP.

Old Business
Combining Commission/Task Force Briefings
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At the last Commission meeting, the Commissioners decided to postpone voting on combining the Task Force/Commission briefings and reports in order to eliminate duplication (and sometimes triplication) of efforts and time.

The following schedule is given again to the Commissioners for their deliberation and vote. The following points were discussed at the last meeting, reflect the desire to “do it all in one day,” and should be considered in the Commission’s vote:

- It is important to have the confidential Commission pre-briefing BEFORE the Task Force briefing. Confidential information, the implications of which are necessary for understanding complex issues presented at the briefings, are more appropriate and valuable ahead of time.
- It is important to have the time necessary for thoughtful deliberation and dialogue at both the Task Force and Commission meeting, especially as activities are becoming more in-depth and comprehensive.
- Since the Commission is the legislated body with the authority to make recommendations to the Secretary of the Interior and to Congress, their autonomy should be retained.

Friday Day	Optional Committee Meetings as Needed
Saturday AM	Confidential Commission Pre-Briefings 7:30 AM – 9:00 AM
Saturday AM	Task Force Meeting - Briefings and Reports 9:00 AM – 1:00 PM
Saturday Noon	Lunch 1:00 PM – 2:00 PM
Saturday PM	Commission Meeting - Deliberations and Vote 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

It is highly recommended that the meetings take place in ONE location, to eliminate travel time, and that they occur in the second floor conference room in the same building as the NPS offices.

The Shanksville schools have been generous and accommodating in allowing the Task Force to meet in the cafeterium over the last 1 ½ years. There are however, many “behind-the-scenes” tasks that occur during the Commission briefings and meeting that do not occur on a large-scale basis at the Task Force meetings, nor would they be easily accommodated at the high school. This includes continuous access to e-mail, fax, copier and the web immediately proximate to the conference room at the NPS offices. Presenters are refining their power point, their handouts, and their communications with home offices as the Commission deliberates. Many people do not see this happening.

Now that the NPS and the Task Force offices are combined, it would be more efficient and effective for staff to combine their efforts and plan for one meeting place in the same building as the offices.

Joanne Hanley will ensure that video conferencing will continue to be available to the families.

Motion

The Commission adopts the proposal to combine the Task Force and Commission briefings into one day as presented in the attached chart.

Old Business
HEINZ HISTORY CENTER PRESENTATION
Briefing Report
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As discussed at the July 30, 2004 Commission meeting, the Heinz History Center is hosting the Smithsonian Institution's exhibit, *September 11th: Bearing Witness to History*. The history center has expanded the exhibit to include items related to western Pennsylvania. The exhibition started on September 11, 2004 and runs through the beginning of next year.

On September 22, 2004, the center sponsored a town meeting-type program to discuss ways people were affected by the events of September 11th. Donna Glessner, Barbara Black, Alexa Potter, Christine Frazier, and Joy Stella attended the event. Jeff Reinbold was invited to speak about planning for the Flight 93 National Memorial. Other speakers included: Father Joseph McCaffrey who was called to the Flight 93 crash site in the days following September 11th; Lt. Shannon McKruit of the Eureka Fire Rescue who served in NYC; Nina Pineda an ABC reporter who was at ground zero in NYC; Brad Yoder a Pittsburgh folk musician who wrote a tribute to September 11th; Jan Loney the metal artist who created the sculpture at the Shanksville school; and Doreen Boyce the Executive Director of The Buhl Foundation who was in a private plane flying near the World Trade Center when the planes crashed into the towers. The program was moderated by John Shumway, a news anchor from KDKA-TV in Pittsburgh.

The Heinz History Center made a \$250 donation to the memorial fund.