

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Flight 93 Memorial Task Force and Flight 93 Advisory
Commission**

Meeting # 25

Somerset County Courthouse, Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501

Saturday, August 1, 2009

Commissioners Present:

Mr. Gordon Felt, Commissioner
Dr. Brent Glass, Commissioner
Ms. Donna Glessner, Vice Chair
Dr. Edward Linenthal, Commissioner
Mr. Kenneth Nacke, Commissioner
Mr. John Reynolds, Chair
Mr. Gary Singel, Commissioner
Mr. Jerry Spangler, Commissioner
Mr. Dan Sullivan, Commissioner
Mr. Mike Watson, Commissioner
Joanne Hanley, Designated Federal Officer

Not in Attendance:

Mr. Lawrence Catuzzi, Commissioner

Commissioners by conference line:

Mr. Jerry Guadagno, Commissioner
Mr. Calvin Wilson, Commissioner

Task Force Co-Chairs Patrick White and Jerry Spangler

I. Welcome

Flight 93 Advisory Commission Chairman Reynolds and Flight 93 Memorial Task Force Co-Chair White called the meeting to order welcoming the Commissioners, Task Force and members of the public, formally opening the 25th meeting of the Flight 93 Federal Advisory Commission. Everyone was thanked for coming.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Following a moment of silence, the invocation was led by Patrick White. A moment of silence was held for Ms. Joy Stella, family member and friend of passenger Colleen Fraser. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Superintendent Joanne Hanley.

III. Opening Remarks, Roll Call and Introduction

Chairman John Reynolds opened the meeting with remarks. He reflected on memories of Joy Stella. Chairman Reynolds introduced the Advisory Commission, as well as members on the phone, and he reviewed the process for signing up for the public comment period. Mr. Reynolds also thanked two members of the Commission who resigned since the last meeting – Ms. Pamela Tokar-Ickes and Mr. Greg Walker. He noted their dedication and commitment to the project

since the inception of the Commission in 2003, and extended sincere thanks to them for their hard work. They will be missed.

Co-Chairman Patrick White made remarks concerning how important it is to stay on the timeline to have a substantial memorial dedication on the tenth anniversary. He also remembered Joy Stella, and how humbled he is to be a part of this process and to have known Ms. Stella and her service.

Co-Chairman Jerry Spangler thanked people for taking time to come to this meeting and to the County for the use of the facility. Mr. Spangler drew attention to the mission statement and aligning our goals to the statement. He spoke of recently being with Dr. Stephen Covey, and listening to his “Four Disciplines of Execution,” and how we are also executing our goals to fulfillment on schedule.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes from August 1, 2009

Chairman Reynolds asked if there were any changes or comments to the Commission minutes. There was one correction. Chairman Reynolds asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous Commission meeting on August 1, 2009.

Commission Motion 09-04 Regarding the Approval of Minutes from May 2, 2009

The Flight 93 Federal Advisory Commission, led by Chair Reynolds approved the minutes of May 2, 2009, as corrected.

Moved: by Commissioner Spangler

Second: by Commissioner Felt

Discussion from the Commissioners: none

Vote: All in favor, none opposed

Motion passes.

Task Force Co-Chairman White noted that from the Task Force perspective, the minutes are in order as corrected.

V. Task Force Reports

Task Force Co-Chair Mr. Patrick White made a special announcement that yesterday, July 31, 2009, he met with attorneys to finalize the sale and transfer of the land for the *Remember Me Rose Garden*, across Route 30 from the Memorial, and how pleased he is to be a partner with them by providing the land. Later today, after this meeting, there will be a groundbreaking at the site. Mr. White invited Ms. Sue Casey, Remember Me Rose Garden, to the podium to make brief remarks.

Ms. Casey talked about the monumental landmark of breaking ground for the *Remember Me Rose Garden* today, and how it is the fulfillment of a dream to have a rose garden at each of the three 9/11 sites to honor all of the people who died that day. She invited everyone to the groundbreaking, and later to the reception at the church in Buckstown. She sincerely thanked everyone for all of their help.

Commissioner Felt commented on how pleased the Families of Flight 93 are in effort to help Ms. Casey.

Superintendent Hanley welcomed Ms. Casey to “the neighborhood” sincerely thanked her for her efforts, and wished a long a fruitful partnership between the NPS and the *Remember Me Rose Garden* organization.

A. Family Memorial Committee Report

Mr. Ken Nacke gave a report about representing the Families of Flight 93 at a press conference at Heinz Field, concerning the upcoming events on the evening of September 11, 2009. He expressed how moving the experience was in meeting Rocky Blier and Franco Harris, and how genuinely caring they were. It was very special to have the professional athletes reaching out to us in this manner.

Advisory Commissioner Ken Nacke presented a report on the Ride with the Forty, scheduled for September 2 to 11, 2009 from Newark, NJ to San Francisco, California. He thanked the many people who were involved in making the trip possible, including Superintendent Joanne Hanley and Jeff Reinbold from the NPS; Larry Catuzzi; Patrick White and the rest of the family; Marty Sterkle from the NPS; John Reynolds, and many many others. Our sponsors area U Haul, Circus Circus, Harley Davidson, Doubletree, Everlite, Porterwright, Remember Me Rose, Families of Flight 93, Quality Inn, Super 8, Courtyard by Marriott, Comfort Inn, Hank Kinzey and Associates, and US Marines NY.

A mini-replica of the temporary memorial was placed at the temporary memorial, and tributes were left on the small fence, for the purpose of travelling on the Ride with the Forty. Tributes will be picked up along the route, and brought back for the collection.

B. Nominating Committee Report

Nominating Committee Chairman Dan Rullo gave a brief report on the status of the search to fill two vacancies on the Commission. He reconvened the Nominating Committee for the purpose of interviewing those nominated to fill the vacancies on the Flight 93 Advisory Commission.

Commissioners Pamela Tokar-Ickes and Gregory Walker resigned their positions on May 6, 2009, and May 10, 2009, respectively. After the National Park Service advertised for potential candidates, each member of the Nominating Committee received a packet of information on or about July 14, 2009. There are 21 specific nominations, some of which were nominated by others and some of course submitted their own request for consideration.

Mr. Rullo has contacted each member of the nominating committee to coordinate dates and times in which the interviews can take place, either in person or through conference calls.

It is presently the intention to conduct the interviews during the months of August/September with consideration hopefully completed by the end of September and recommendations made to the Secretary of Interior following a thorough consideration of the applicants.

As most of you are aware, the composition of the recommendations of the Federal Advisory Commission primarily focused on three categories; those with local interest, those of family interest and those of national interest.

Because the two vacancies are from the category of the local interest, the focus is to fill those vacancies from those individuals that have local ties to the Somerset and surrounding area.

C. Temporary Memorial Management Report

Ranger Adam Shaffer gave the following report:

Special Events:

Since May 1, there have been six special events held at the Temporary Memorial and two new tribute stones left to honor the passengers and crew of Flight 93. These services included everything from motorcycle rides to band performance and wreath laying ceremonies. On Memorial Day weekend, the Macungie Band visited the Memorial performing 30 minutes of patriotic musical numbers. After their performance, a group of motorcyclists rode to the Memorial as part of the Tri-County "100 miles of Memories" and left a signed tribute at the Memorial. In June the Memorial was visited by hundreds of bikers during the weekend of Thunder in the Valley held annually in Johnstown.

In August, we expect many visitors as part of two large motorcycle rides to the Memorial on back-to-back days. On August 19, at least 200 bikes from the National American Legion Ride will arrive at the Memorial for a wreath-laying ceremony. On August 20, an estimated 700 riders from America's 9/11 Foundation will be congregating in Somerset for their annual pilgrimage to Flight 93, the Pentagon, and New York City. Groups plan to visit the Memorial in three waves at 4, 5, and 6 PM. On August 21 the entire ride will pass the Memorial in salute in the early morning hours.

Volunteers:

Ranger Shaffer gave a moving slide show of the visit from the 37 staff and the volunteer docents from the Tribute Center in New York City, the interim museum of the World Trade Center (equivalent to our Temporary Memorial). He read several moving e-mails from the docents, talking about how much they were touched by their visit. These docents, all of whom had a direct experience at Ground Zero or lost a loved one that day, offer the public a one-hour walking tour around the World Trade Center site. The group spent about three hours at the memorial, and then visited the Shanksville Fire Department and the Memorial Garden at the Shanksville-Stonycreek High School. Our volunteers graciously provided a covered dish meal at the St. Mark Lutheran Church social hall following the tour of the town. Saturday evening was concluded with programs given by each of the volunteer groups on the formation and evolution of their programs. Many new friendships were made between the staff and volunteers at the two sites. On Sunday morning, the Tribute Center staff and volunteers had the opportunity to visit the Park Office in Somerset to learn more about the plans for the permanent Memorial, the archiving and storage of tributes, and the Oral History project.

Visitation:

Record numbers of visitors came to the memorial in the months of May and June, 2009. Visitation for May was 15,409, up 22% over the visitors recorded in May of 2008. In June, we welcomed 19,859 visitors, up 28% over June, 2009. These are the highest visitation counts for any May or June since records have been kept.

D. Government Liaison Briefing Report

Co-Chair White read the following report prepared by Will Hollier:

Federal Appropriations FY '10: Is pleased to report that two two earmarks have been secured totaling \$4,725,000 for Flight 93 National Memorial construction in Phase 1. Funding bills still must go to conference later this year, however, we are extremely confident that the level of funding provided in the House & Senate Committees will be included in the final conference reports.

Chairman Reynolds explained the differences in how the Senate and House bills are developed, and then brought together in conference.

Including this year's anticipated funding, a total of \$11,995,000 has been appropriated by the Congress for the Memorial. This funding total is 65% of the federal government's obligation of providing \$18.4 million for the Memorial. Not included in either funding total is an additional \$10,000,000 appropriated by the Congress for Memorial land acquisition. This is excellent progress.

Highway Transportation Reauthorization Funding: The Highway Transportation Reauthorization legislation is a five (5) year authorization bill which spends down the highway trust fund that's funded by federal gas taxes, and is an additional source of funding being looked at. Members of Congress have the ability to direct funding for specific high priority projects in this legislation.

Congressional Gold Medal Legislation and U.S. Capitol Plaque: Follow-up with Congressman Shuster and Speaker Pelosi's office is occurring to ensure Flight 93 plaque dedication in the Capitol is planned and executed. .

Senator Specter/Secretary Salazar Meeting re: Land acquisition: As a follow-up to the February Letter of Commitment signing, a number of meetings were held with Secretary of the Interior Salazar and landowners to assure acquisition of key Phase 1 parcels.

E. Communications Report

Deborah Borza, Families of Flight 93, read the following report on behalf of Carole O'Hare, Families of Flight 93:

On Monday, October 11, 2003, a Resolution was signed in the U.S. Senate to erect a plaque in the Capitol Building honoring the forty passengers and crewmembers on Flight 93 for their heroic actions on September 11, 2001. The Resolution was sponsored by Senators Kent Conrad of North Dakota, and Jim Jeffords of Vermont (now retired). In a press release dated October 13, 2003, Senator Conrad said that he pushed for the Resolution because he felt there was little recognition of the passengers' and crewmembers' actions. Conrad said, "When you read the story of what these people did to find out on their cell phones from family members that other planes had been turned into flying bombs and they were likely headed toward the same fate and to take action to try to recapture the plane and prevent the disaster, that is real courage and that is heroism and it is an inspiration to all of us."

In September, 2005, just after Labor Day, Pennsylvania Rep. Shuster, called for a vote on a similar measure in the House of Representatives, and that Resolution passed as well. Then House Minority Leader, Nancy Pelosi, was appointed to chair a Committee to find a place for the Plaque within the Capitol Building.

Later in 2005, after the Resolution had passed in both houses of Congress, Sen. Conrad, speaking for both the Senate and the House, said, “My legislation expresses our deepest respect and gratitude, as well as our condolences, to the family and friends of those who died aboard Flight 93.”

With this historical action now behind us, we are pleased to announce that on September 9, 2009, at 3:00 p.m., the Flight 93 Plaque will be unveiled at its dedication in the Visitor’s Center of United State’s Capitol. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, as well other members of both the House and Senate, will say a few words, as will Families of Flight 93 President Gordon Felt. Many other Flight 93 family members will be in attendance as well, along with representatives from the National Park Service, the National Park Foundation, and the Flight 93 Federal Advisory Commission, and other invited guests.

This is certainly a most well-deserved honor for the Forty Heroes of Flight 93; may they always rest in peace and remain in our hearts with love, forever.

Lisa Linden; Linden, Alschuler & Kaplan PR, read the following report:

Once again, I bring you tangible evidence of newsclips demonstrating interest in the Flight 93 project – local, national and international. Barbara Black will be putting these in the archives.

It was my honor to reach out to General Colin Powell, at the request of the Families of Flight 93, to ask him to speak at Shanksville on September 11th. General Powell has agreed to come to our battlefield to keynote this solemn occasion as a tribute to our heroes. General Powell will be a living example of this year’s theme – *Upon this Sacred Ground; Courage Remembered*.

I will be onsite early on the morning of September 11, along with my colleague Mike Petralia, to welcome and credential the media that will hopefully begin to set up. We will do everything in our power to support all of you that day and bring attention and honor to the actions of those whose names once again will be read into the American record of 9/11 remembrance and achievement.

There will be many events that we will be working on in the coming weeks, including the Ride with the 40, the unveiling of the Flight 93 plaque in the U.S. Capitol, State Senator Orié’s Hearts of Steel event in Harrisburg, and of course, the September 11 ceremony itself. Various themes such as Honor the Heroes, Flight 93: Courage Remembered, Fund the Memorial, Build the Memorial and Never Forget will be integrated into our messages.

Looking back during this quarter, we continued to work with you to tell the story of the ongoing positive movement in the funding and building of the permanent Flight 93 National Memorial. For example, the news that emanated from the last quarterly meeting — the release of the new design drawing, new details on the Ride with the 40 and the transfer of the PBS Coals, Inc. property garnered good local coverage including a *Tribune-Democrat* story titled “*Flight 93 Memorial design wins praise*,” and a *Tribune-Review* piece titled “*Motorcycle ride across country will benefit Flight 93 memorial*.” The *Daily American* published two articles, one titled “*Flight 93 planning team tries to connect visitors to memorial*,” and the other titled “*950 acres of land transferred to the NPS*.”

Land issues

Beginning on May 7 and throughout much of May and June, we worked extensively with all the Flight 93 partners on land issues and related actions. The focus and presence of Secretary Salazar and Senator Specter on these issues generated a significant volume of news, speculation and media inquiries from hundreds of media outlets in print, on television and on radio. Together with the Flight 93 partners, we assisted in generating statements and press releases while working with reporters from local, national and

international media outlets. The change in composition of the Flight 93 Advisory Commission during that period also created the need for statements and interaction with various media.

Secretary Salazar's Visit

On June 4, Senator Specter and Secretary Salazar met with the local landowners, the Families of Flight 93 and the NPS concerning land acquisition for the permanent Memorial. The Department of the Interior issued a statement reiterating the Secretary's commitment to the September 11, 2011 dedication date and directed the NPS to continue to negotiate with the landowners. Gordon Felt, who had attended the meeting and a subsequent press conference with Secretary Salazar, issued a statement that read, "***The Families of Flight 93 are unwavering in their goal to get the permanent national memorial honoring our 40 heroes dedicated by the tenth anniversary of the events of 9-11. We appreciate the commitment to that goal so clearly expressed today by Senator Specter and Secretary Salazar. We look forward to working through the process and meeting the milestones.***" The AP included Gordie's comment in a story that was carried by over 100 media outlets including *Forbes*, the *London Guardian* and the *Kansas City Star*. The western Pennsylvania media outlets also covered the story, as well as *CNN.com* and the *Los Angeles Times*.

There was a positive response in the media including a June 8 editorial in the *Watertown (N.Y.) Daily Times* titled "***Flight 93 memorial/Government takes gentler tack in dispute***" and a June 9 editorial in the *Daily American* titled "***A better way.***"

On June 12, NPS Acting Director Dan Wenk issued an update on the land negotiations saying he was "extremely encouraged by how the negotiations have gone" and that "The National Park Service, the landowners and the Families of Flight 93 will continue to work together throughout the weekend and we hope to have a more definitive announcement in the coming days."

In response, after discussions with the Flight 93 partners including Patrick White, I was quoted as a spokesperson for the Families of Flight 93 saying, "***The Families of Flight 93 are pleased to be participating in this process. We are in active negotiations and we appreciate the leadership of the National Park Service and the efforts of all those involved. There has been good dialogue and a commitment on all sides to making this work. We are optimistic about reaching our goal of the dedication of a substantial permanent memorial by the tenth anniversary of the events of September 11th.***" An AP story titled "***Landowners close to deals for Flight 93 memorial***" was carried by approximately 200 media sites worldwide. An update with the Families of Flight 93 statement was picked up by about 50 media outlets including the *Washington Post*, *Forbes.com* and the *Miami Herald*. The statement was also used by the *Philadelphia Inquirer* in its coverage. The western Pennsylvania media also reported on the negotiations.

Secretary Salazar Returns

On June 23, Secretary Salazar returned to meet with the landowners in Somerset and to check on the status of the negotiations. At a press briefing afterwards, the Secretary announced that he was "optimistic" about the negotiations and that the government had reached agreements-in-principle with five of the seven landowners. In response, after working with the partners including Patrick White, I again acted as spokesperson for the Families of Flight 93 and issued a statement that read, "***We are pleased that Secretary Salazar and the NPS are adhering to the timetable that will keep us on track for the tenth anniversary dedication of a substantial memorial to those who gave their lives on September 11th. We also acknowledge the landowners' significant contribution of their families' lands and applaud them for working with our elected and appointed officials to move quickly.***" An AP story titled "***Interior Secretary optimistic about Flight 93 land***" was posted on hundreds of news sites around the world. Approximately 100 sites posted a version of the story with the Families of Flight 93 statement including

ABC News, the *Fresno Bee* and *CBS 4 TV* in Denver. Stories also ran in regional news outlets including the *Daily American* and the *Tribune-Democrat* and the *Tribune-Review*.

Other Initiatives

While the narrative over the land negotiations occupied a large part of public communications efforts since the last quarterly meeting, there were other initiatives as well.

On May 23, as part of a series of activities associated with Memorial Day weekend sponsored by the Flags4heroes organization, a non-profit organization whose mission is to fund the placement of U.S. flags on the graves of U.S. veterans and advance the cause of the U.S. flag, Families of Flight 93 president Felt accepted the Flags4Heroes National Award for Uncommon Valor on behalf of the 40 heroes in Louisville, Kentucky. LAK drafted and distributed a press release on the award. A story titled “*Remsen man accepts award for 9/11 victims*” based on the release ran in the *Rome Sentinel* near Gordie Felt’s hometown of Remsen. Louisville outlets such as the *Louisville Courier-Journal* and *WLKY-TV* also covered the award presentation.

I had the pleasure of speaking to David Beamer in advance of his media interviews regarding his visit to Chardon Middle School in Ohio. Mr. Beamer was there to congratulate the students for participating in the 93 Cents for Flight 93 campaign. On June 3, local Ohio media including the *Cleveland Plain Dealer* and the *Akron Beacon* covered his visit. He was terrific on *Fox television* that morning as well.

Beam-Signing Event in Washington D.C.

On July 3, Dr. Brent Glass a member of the Flight 93 Advisory Commission and the director of the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History participated in a September 11 National Memorial and Museum (N911MM) construction beam-signing ceremony in Washington, D.C. He delivered brief remarks at the event. Calvin Wilson and Hamilton Peterson from the Families of Flight 93 also attended the event and participated in the ceremonial beam-signing photo opportunity. Dr. Glass did a terrific pre-event interview with the *local Washington, D.C. Fox morning show*, along with representatives from the other 9/11 memorials, to discuss the importance of all three memorials.

Although a statement from Dr. Glass was included in the N911MM press release, LAK drafted a separate press release for the event titled “*Flight 93 National Memorial Representatives Joined NYC and Pentagon Memorial Representatives in Washington, D.C. For World Trade Center Memorial Ceremony.*” A shortened version of the release was sent out over PR Newswire. The release was posted by over 200 media outlets including *Forbes.com*, *Reuters* and *Fox Business News*.

Future Planning

LAK continues to work with the Flight 93 partners on plans regarding several initiatives. They include:

- The September 11 ceremony at the temporary Memorial.
- The Flight 93 plaque unveiling in the U.S. Capitol.
- The Ride with the 40.
- State Senator Orié’s event in Harrisburg honoring the Hearts of Steel volunteers.
- Continuing efforts to coordinate media and government relations efforts particularly as it relates to Flight 93 federal appropriations.
- Issues surrounding the creation of an appropriate groundbreaking event.
- Support, as requested, for the September 11 “9/11 We Will Never Forget” fundraising event at Heinz Field.

The theme that continues to guide all of our efforts is to remind the world that we can best honor the 40 ordinary people who became extraordinary heroes by the creation of the permanent Flight 93 National

Memorial. We will continue to be guided by the overarching goal of supporting the fundraising goals of the memorial.

The need to raise funds to complete the memorial is integral to keeping the promise made by this nation – to have an evocative and appropriate National Memorial dedicated by September 11, 2011. We will work with all the partners to continue on that path in order to succeed.

We will continue to take every opportunity to portray a compelling picture of the lessons of Flight 93, remembering the heroes, and building the memorial—now.

F. Archives Committee Briefing Report

Acting Site Manager Barbara Black read the following report:

Oral History and Documentation Project

483 oral history interviews have been completed in the project. Of these, 147 are with family or friends, representing 32 of the 40 passengers and crew. 300 (62%) of the total interviews have been transcribed. 101 (21%) are completely through the process and in the permanent collection of the Memorial.

Kathie Shaffer was able to interview several family members in the New Jersey, New York area in May. Kathie, Donna Glessner and I made a quick one-day trip to northeast Pennsylvania to interview three family members who were gathered for the Fourth of the July holiday. Kathie has an 8 day trip planned to New York, New Jersey and a few New England states on August 7-14. And she will be traveling with some of our volunteers to Chicago in September.

The project will again be funded for another year starting October 1 as we continue to reach more family members and those connected to the events surrounding Flight 93.

Collections

The records conversion project for the Flight 93 Tribute Collection is almost complete, and new cataloging should start this fall.

Comments

Ms. Black reflected on how Joy Stella always walked up to the podium with her for these reports, and how much she is missed.

Chairman Reynolds thanked Ms. Black for all of this hard work, and commented on how important it is. He also commented on how important it is that this work continue to be funded, and to not let opportunities go past. Dr. Linenthal also commented on the incredible job that is being done, and that someday people will want to learn about these important memories and the process by which they were gathered.

Dr. Glass commented on the first oral histories done in the 1930's on tape recorders with the WPA and even with former slaves, they are one of the richest sources of information that we have. We cannot imagine not having these stories, and someday the Flight 93 oral histories will be viewed the same.

Dr. Linenthal queried about future funding, and Superintendent Hanley responded that funds are taken directly out of the operating budget, that is how important it is. At some point in the future, we will need to seek additional funding.

G. Interpretive Planning Briefing Report

Acting Site Manager Barbara Black read the following report:

The Flight 93 academic research team is preparing both a written report as well as a much more extensive web based data base on the systematic study of what Flight 93 means to a wide range of audiences. The Team was asked to develop the report further than originally requested to reflect theme recommendations that will be used to develop a relevant interpretation and education program for the permanent Flight 93 National Memorial. Because of this, both the report and data base is expected to be completed by October 2009.

Superintendent Hanley further explained that the analysis will re-examine and ground truth the relevancy of the old themes in the General Management Plan. They will be further refined and developed them into a matrix with subthemes and specific stories.

Commissioner Spangler noted that we are doing something that is very difficult, and that is translating current events into a memorial.

H. Friends of Flight 93

Commissioner Spangler noted that the statute creating the national memorial require that the Commission sunset at the ribbon-cutting. The Task Force will also sunset at that time. In order to be ready, a new Friends of Flight 93 is forming.

Commissioner Donna Glessner and Superintendent Joanne Hanley attended a “Making Friends Workshop” at Cuyahoga National Park in June.

There will be an event in September to cultivate new friends, using the new Ken Burns film – America’s Best Idea – as a platform to launch the new Friends of Flight 93.

The new friends organization is working with the NPS to plan for a Strategic Planning Workshop to develop short and long terms goals and objectives.

Chairman John Reynolds commented that the approach the new friends group is taking is very well thought out and very well done. He thanked everyone for this work.

VI. Flight 93 Advisory Commission Briefing Reports

Chairman Reynolds commented on the work that Secretary Salazar has done on behalf of the memorial. Mr. Reynolds noted that he rarely, in all of his years of government service, has seen the immediate commitment and personal time put into a “smaller national park” such as that which Secretary Salazar has done in his first several months in office for Flight 93. It is extremely impressive and very much appreciated. He came up several times and helped to inspire and bring all the landowners together to negotiate the sale of their property, in order to avoid eminent domain proceedings; and most of the landowners have responded positively.

A. Land Acquisition Briefing Report

Superintendent Joanne Hanley, presented the following report:

On May 28, 2009, the NPS closed with the Families of Flight 93 on two of the former PBS Coals properties, one being 925.85 acres, and the other 27.26 acres.

Because of the time constraints to meet the construction schedule, as well as the unsuccessful attempts to reach agreements with landowners, the NPS sent letters to all owners in the Phase IA area on May 6, 2009, to advise them that we would be moving forward with acquisition of their properties by eminent domain.

Because eminent domain is only an acquisition of last resort, , Secretary of Interior Ken Salazar, along with Senator Specter, and representatives from Senator Casey's office, Congressman Shuster's office, and local elected officials met with several of those landowners in early June to hear their concerns. Secretary Salazar came yet again to Somerset to meet with the landowners in late June to listen to see what could be done to overcome obstacles and challenges.

There were several days spent in long negotiations among the NPS, the Families of Flight 93 and the landowners. Every good faith effort was exhausted to come to agreement on the sale of property.

We are pleased to report that in late June, the NPS, with the Families of Flight 93 as a partner, reached agreements with 5 of the landowners to purchase their property for memorial construction.

We are also pleased to report that closings have taken place on the Eschrich property, which is 4.18 acres; and the Williams property, which is 5.55 acres.

A closing is being scheduled on the Hoover property, 5.39 acres, for Wednesday August 5th.

We continue to work to schedule a closing on the Tim Lambert properties, 4.16 acres and 0.95 acres.

As soon as the NPS receives corrected title documents, a closing will be scheduled on the Musser right-of-way.

The Kordells have agreed in principle to the sale of their 145.75 acre property, and we are continuing to discuss relocation benefits connected to moving Rollock, Inc., a metal recycling and salvage business which currently operates on the property.

Regarding the 834 acres of coal rights owned by The Conservation Fund, the NPS appraisal was completed, an offer made to TCF and signed. We continue working to clear a few administrative hurdles in order to acquire this tract, and expect to close shortly.

For the Svonovec parcel, the Agreement in Principle is still in place to have the court decide the value.

Commissioner Felt commented on how encouraging it is to be with and hear the Secretary commit to and stay with the timeline to assure the dedication on the tenth anniversary. Mr. Felt asked what the deadline must be for the last two parcels to be turned over to the NPS. Superintendent Hanley gave the timeline for the Kordell property. Ms. Hanley could not answer for the Svonavec negotiations, but Mr. Patrick White indicated that the filing of eminent domain is imminent for this property.

Commission Spangler and Co-Chairman White both clarified that in a "friendly condemnation," the paperwork is filed, the NPS has title ownership, but possession of the land still takes some time.

Mr. Gordan Felt, speaking as a family member and not as a Commissioner, wanted to stress to the NPS and the federal government how important the Svonavec parcel is to the families, as it is the impact site and the final resting place of their loved ones. He urged the federal government to get this done as quickly as possible.

Superintendent Hanley continued with her report:

In addition approximately 350 acres added to the new State Game Land 93 (SGL93) in recent years, both The Conservation Fund and the Pennsylvania Game Commission continue to actively talk to other landowners to the north about additional parcels that could be incorporated into SGL93. TCF and PGC have reached agreement for the sale of 217 acres owned by Berwind Natural Resources Corporation, which will provide critical connectivity for the existing portions of SGL93. Closing is anticipated by September 11, 2009.

TCF is working with the Families of Flight 93 (FFL93) to assist with the transfer of roughly 55 acres of former PBS Coal land to the PGC for inclusion into SGL93. SGL93 serves as a buffer for the Memorial and complements the work of the NPS. TCF is lending the support of staff and contracted experts to the FFL93 to analyze mineral values associated with other Memorial tracts that FFL93 may purchase.

Patrick White, Vice President, Families of Flight 93, presented the following report:

Mr. Patrick White illustrated the difference in colors in the land acquisition map from 2005 to 2009 – the dark green showing the increasing ownership of the land by the NPS.

Mr. White restated that the Families own 67 acres north of US 30, a portion of which was sold to the *Remember Me Rose Garden* yesterday. The Families continue to work with the Conservation Fund and State Game Lands 93.

Mr. White made further comments on the Svonavec and Kordell acquisition, and hoped by the next meeting there will be positive outcomes on these properties.

Regarding the former Mock property, the Families are doing their best to bring that to a close. A title issue still remains.

Regarding the Seymour estate, the Families will remove themselves from that process. Regarding the Karen Lambert process, a site visit was done, and working through the issues regarding access looks optimistic.

Regarding the larger Tim Lambert parcel, the Families are in active negotiations and have an agreement in principle for acquisition.

Mr. White expressed his appreciation for the passion and encouragement of the Commission and the partners to get this work done and stay the course. He also thanked the landowners for their patience and participation, as well as the personal involvement of Secretary Salazar and Senator Specter.

Commissioner Spangler noted that one of the main reasons we have been so successful, is the commitment of Patrick White, and thanked him tremendously.

Mr. White thanked his employer – Porter, Wright, Morris and Arthur – for allowing him to do all of the work pro-bono.

B. Fundraising Briefing

King Laughlin read the following report:

In just a little over a month from now the eyes of the nation will once again be focused on Shanksville and the courageous actions of the passengers and crewmembers on September 11, 2001. A number of special commemorative activities during the first part of September will bring attention to plans to build the Flight 93 National Memorial and serve as a forum for engaging supporters in the capital campaign. The National Park Foundation has also just welcomed a new president, Neil Mulholland whom we look forward to welcoming at Flight 93 in September.

CAMPAIGN SUMMARY: Funds raised for the campaign stand at \$15.6 million through the quarter ending June 30, 2009. This total includes just over \$10.5 million allocated toward the first phase private fundraising goal established by the National Park Service. Just over \$1 million has already been transferred to NPS for design and construction documents for the Memorial. During the past twelve months, over 12,000 new donors have contributed to the campaign bringing the total number of donors to over 50,000 as of this summer.

CULTIVATION AND SOLICITATION ACTIVITIES: During the last three months, we have worked closely with our campaign chairmen to solicit several gifts at the \$100,000 level and above for the campaign. Informal and formal proposals totaling more than \$2 million have been submitted for consideration by over a half-dozen donors. The campaign is also actively seeking payment on several pledge balances to the campaign, which will be applied to construction needs for the memorial.

The campaign is working closely with organizers for the Ride with the 40. Three proposals for event sponsorship (\$50,000 to \$100,000) are in various phases of consideration, and we have targeted proposals for lodging, fuel, and transportation/rentals that are being reviewed. We are also continuing to work with volunteers “on the ground” in multiple cities along the route to arrange for greetings and send-offs. Governor and mayors in four states and several cities have issued proclamations for the Ride, inspired by the actions of the Somerset County Commissioners during the May meeting.

A formal event on September 10 will publicly announce the \$1.1 million gift of the Hearts of Steel fund made earlier this year. The event in Harrisburg, PA will feature a press conference at the State Capitol followed by a luncheon and program for some 200 guests, program volunteers, donors, and Flight partners. Campaign chairmen General Tommy Franks and Chris Sullivan will be on hand to give brief remarks. A special announcement regarding the future of the Hearts of Steel bracelet program will be made at that time. The Verizon Foundation has generously agreed to sponsor this event.

The campaign and National Park Foundation are joining with the Pittsburgh Steelers organization to host “9/11 We Will Never Forget” during the evening of September 11 in Pittsburgh, PA. The event will feature a reception for VIPs and event sponsors followed by a dinner and program that offers a respectful tribute to the Heroes of Flight 93. A press conference on July 15 officially announced the event, and public service announcements featuring Rocky Bleier have been appearing in print, on television and radio, and on digital billboards around Pittsburgh. A website has been created and printed marketing materials are in production. Nearly a dozen table sponsors have already come forward, following the lead of Somerset Bank and Trust, the very first sponsor for this event.

A video clip of Rocky Blier’s PSA was shown.

The campaign is in the process of analyzing its database to “screen” its donor records for information regarding wealth and liquidity. The models being used will score donors and provide an indication of which donors are likely to have the capacity to give at a higher level. Through this common fundraising

practice, we intend to identify hundreds of donors as large-gift prospects. This analysis will be complete within the next 30 days.

CAMPAIGN COMMUNICATIONS: Plans are underway to “refresh” the campaign website, www.honorflight93.org, in anticipation September 11. These mostly cosmetic changes under the supervision of the campaign’s communications committee will result in updated content and images, a new means of making on-line donations, greater email capability, special September 11 messaging, and a much-needed content management solution. New visitors (roughly 90 percent of all site visits) are coming every day and we expect increased visitation leading up to September 11.

The fourth issue of the Campaign newsletter, *93 Remembered: Honoring the Heroes of Flight 93*, was mailed to over 20,000 Founding Sponsors, prospective donors, and friends of the Flight 93 National Memorial and included news about a special message from Governor Rendell, an interview with Task Force co-chairman Jerry Spangler, and an article on the upcoming Ride with the 40. The next issue will focus on various September 11 activities and will be out early in the fall.

Mr. Reynolds thanked the National Park Foundation.

C. Memorial Design Briefing Report

Superintendent Hanley presented the following report:

Phase 1A

- The National Park Service and the Somerset County Chamber of Commerce sponsored a A Vendor’s Seminar for potential contractors, subcontractors and suppliers on July 30, 2009 at the park office. This information session was led by contracting and project management staff from the Denver Service Center. The NPS was pleased to have over 40 participants who learned all about applying for federal contracting jobs. The contractors who could not attend, will be mailed DVDs of the seminar; handouts of the training will also be posted on our website shortly.
- Permits:
 - The NPDES (sediment control) permit was submitted 07/24/2009.
 - The 404 and 401 permits (wetlands) will be submitted 07/29/2009. The wetland permit still has to undergo public comment.
 - The Sewer Planning Module study is completed and is being reviewed.
 - We anticipate all of the permits to be completed by contract award November 6, 2009.
- The Director’s approval form to proceed with construction contracting will be submitted week of August 3rd, with approval by August 13th. An advance briefing has been sent.
- The remainder of the milestones are on target to date:
 - 7/31/09 Complete CDs
 - 8/13/09 Director's Approval form approved (with contingencies that permits will be final and lands will be in NPS ownership by contract award)
 - 8/13/09 Pre Solicitation
 - 8/17/09 Solicitation (need funding for 95% base contract by here)
 - 11/6/09 Contract Award (need all permits, land, as well as complete funding, by here)

Phase 1C Report from PENN DOT

Project Status:

- Design activities began in April 2009
- Preliminary plans developed June 2009
- Environmental Clearance anticipated mid August 2009
- Permits to be submitted early August 2009
- Construction Bid Opening anticipated Spring 2010

D. NPS Report

Barbara Black gave the following report on the upcoming ceremony on September 11, 2009. She reported there will only be one memorial service this year, on September 11th starting at 9:45 AM at the gravel pad on Skyline Road. General Colin Powell will be the keynote speaker. The rest of the program is being developed. Information will be on the website within the week.

Superintendent Hanley gave personnel updates. She introduced Peter Turcik, who just graduated from Allegheny College is the new Student Conservation Association intern starting May 2009, and ending May 2010. We have three seasonal rangers - Wendy Clay, Jessica Schrock and Donny Zeigler. We have two seasonal maintenance employees as well.

Jeff Reinbold is back with us as Site Manager for Flight 93, and Park Planner for the five national parks in western PA.

Superintendent Hanley recognized and sincerely thanked Barbara Black for her role over the last two years as Acting Site Manager, Curator, and Chief of Interpretation and Cultural Resources, and gave her a special recognition award. She read a letter of thanks and a list of her many exemplary accomplishments over the last two years.

Jeff Reinbold gave a brief report on the Ken Burns film – America’s Best Idea - and the work of the park around that film. The film will air on PBS September 27th. WQED is producing 10 to 15 minute pieces on the five national parks in western PA, and will air around the Ken Burns episodes.

Mr. Reinbold also reported that we also received a grant from the National Park Foundation to produce our own 8 to 10 minute video on citizen involvement in the establishment and care of the five national parks in western PA, and told through the voices of local residents and NPS staff. The second piece from the NPF grant is to film the voices and stories of former Shanksville-Stonycreek students who were in school during the time of the attacks of 9/11. They will be interviewed and talk about what they remember from that day, how they now feel being back, and how it has affected their lives.

VII. Old Business

None reported.

VIII. New Business

None reported.

IX. Public Comment

Chair Reynolds invited those who wished to give public comment to limit their comments to five minutes.

Barry D. Smith

Mr. Smith is a volunteer Flight 93 Ambassador who expressed his continued gratitude to be able to present the Flight 93 story, and felt it was an honor and a privilege to do so.

Grant Woollacott

Mr. Woollacott read the story of his research on Flight 93 Flight Attendant Deborah Welsh.

The next meeting of the Commission and Task Force will be held on November 7, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:00 PM.

Minutes prepared by:

Joanne Hanley, Flight 93 National Memorial