

**Minutes of the Joint Meeting of the Flight 93 Memorial Task Force and Flight 93 Advisory
Commission**
Meeting # 21
Somerset County Courthouse, Somerset, Pennsylvania 15501
Saturday, August 2, 2008

Minutes prepared by:
Skaidra Kempkowski, Flight 93 National Memorial

Commissioners Present :

Mr. John Reynolds, Chair
Mr. Lawrence Catuzzi, Commissioner
Ms. Donna Glessner, Vice Chair
Mr. Kenneth Nacke, Commissioner
Mr. Gary Singel, Commissioner
Mr. Jerry Spangler, Commissioner
Mr. Dan Sullivan, Commissioner
Ms. Pam Tokar-Ickes, Commissioner
Mr. Gregory Walker, Commissioner
Mr. Mike Watson, Commissioner
Mr. Calvin Wilson, Commissioner
Joanne Hanley, Designated Federal Officer

Commissioners by conference line:

Mr. Gordon Felt, Commissioner
Dr. Brent Glass, Commissioner
Mr. Jerry Guadagno, Commissioner
Mr. Edward Linenthal, Commissioner

Task Force Co-Chairs Patrick White and Jerry Spangler

Flight 93 Advisory Commission Chairman John Reynolds and Flight 93 Memorial Task Force Co-Chair Patrick White called the meeting to order.

I. Welcome and Role Call

Chairman Reynolds welcomed the Commissioners, Task Force and the members of the public, formally opening the twenty-first meeting of the Flight 93 Federal Advisory Commission, and took roll of those Commissioners in attendance, those joining via teleconference, and those not in attendance.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation led by Pastor Way of the Good Shepard Cooperative. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Staff Sergeant Ryan James McGettigan, son of National Park Service Employee, Jim McGettigan.

III. Opening Remarks and Introduction

Flight 93 Memorial Task Force Co-Chair, Patrick White welcomed the community for being involved and for joining the task force meeting, and also thanked the county for the use of their courtroom. Co-Chair Jerry Spangler reminded everyone of the mission statement of Flight 93 National Memorial, by re-reading it.

Chairman Reynolds welcomed Jim McGettigan back, who had a serious illness. Chairman Reynolds also wished Patrick White a happy birthday and sent thoughts to Janet Thomas and Pam Way, Ambassadors who are recovering from medical procedures.

IV. Review and Approval of Minutes from May 3, 2008

Chairman Reynolds asked if there were any changes or comments to the Commission minutes. Chairman Reynolds asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the previous Commission meeting on May 3, 2008.

Commission Motion 08-06 Regarding the Approval of Minutes from May 3, 2008

The Flight 93 Federal Advisory Commission, led by Chairman Reynolds approved the minutes of May 3, 2008

Moved: by Commissioner Spangler

Second: by Commissioner Wilson

Discussion from the Commissioners: none

Vote: All in favor, none opposed

Motion passes.

Chairman Reynolds reminded the public that if they wish to speak at the end of the meeting during the public comment period, they must sign up outside the courtroom with Barbara Black. Each individual will have 5 minutes to speak, unless there are 5 or less individuals signed up to speak. In this case, they will be allowed more time. Chairman Reynolds advised there was an error during the last meeting in allowing an individual to cede time to another individual. The purpose of the public comment period is to allow as many individuals to be heard as possible. Individuals may also send in their comments to the designated federal official, Superintendent Hanley within a week of the meeting and these comments will be included in the official meeting minutes.

V. Task Force Reports

Task Force Co-Chair, Patrick White announced the following portions to be discussed during the Task Force section of the agenda. The items on the Task Force include family memorial, temporary memorial management, government liaisons, communications, archives, interpretive plan and friends group.

A. Family Memorial Committee Report

Commissioner Nacke presented the following report:

On July 6, 2008, Commissioner Nacke represented the partnership on a motorcycle ride from Fairfax, Virginia to the temporary memorial. Commissioner Nacke had the honor of meeting two French nationals, who are businessmen in Washington DC, and who were able to raise over \$10,000 in donation money to the temporary memorial. Meeting these two people empowered Mr. Nacke to come up with an idea to raise awareness and to raise money for the memorial. It

will be a motorcycle ride called Riding with the Forty, leaving from Newark Airport, New Jersey on September 4th, driving across the country and stopping at designated areas, and arriving in San Francisco, California, on September 11, 2009, close to the intended arrival time of Flight 93. The route will be along Lincoln Highway, U.S. 30, which will be the road from which the future memorial will have an entrance and has a terminus near San Francisco, California.

B. Temporary Memorial Management Report

Vice Chair Glessner presented the following report:

Vice Chair Glessner felt it was appropriate to acquaint the public about the functions of the Temporary Memorial Management Committee. It was organized to assure that the memorial that was established in November 2001 would continue to be a place where the visitor could come to learn about the events of September 11th. Committee members are concerned with three areas, which are maintenance of the site, staffing of the site, and care of the tributes left at the site. The committee members are Joanne Hanley, Barbara Black, Keith Newlin Esther Heymann, Christine Fraser, Joy Stella, Donna Glessner, Chuck Wagner and Greg Walker.

Visitation:

Volunteers and staff from the National Park Service together are providing services at the temporary memorial from 10 AM to 6 PM on weekdays and from 10 AM to dusk on Saturdays and Sundays. Additional volunteers are scheduled for special events.

Visitation at the temporary memorial varies widely with the seasons. Although the crowds are smaller in January and February, it is rare to have a day without any visitors. Springtime and motorcoach groups start arriving in March and peak in late-May. Visitation is high in the summer months and around September 11th. There is also a lot of visitation in the fall, due to the fall colors. Last year there was reported to be 145,000 visitors, counted during the time the temporary memorial was staffed. This also included a record number of 441 motorcoach groups.

Since the last report to the Commission and Task Force in April, visitation has increased from 2,000 persons per week to 4,000 week—typical summertime numbers. During two weeks, those including the “Thunder in the Valley” motorcycle rally in June and the Fourth of July, visitation topped 5,000 for the week. During the first six months of 2008 there have been 44, 279 visitors. This included 249 bus groups. There were a record number of buses in May with 106.

Visitors include first time visitors and family groups traveling with children. Others are part of organized groups, such as scouts, church groups, campers, veterans, car clubs, military and senior citizens. Visitors during the month of July included people from 24 nations and from every state in the country.

In the coming few weeks we’re anticipating the visits of several large motorcycle groups to the memorial. On August 14 America’s 9/11 Ride, a three-city ride which originates in Somerset, then travels to the Pentagon and finally to New York City, will hold an evening ceremony at the temporary memorial. Attendance is estimated to be around 700 motorcycles. On August 23 the community of Shanksville will welcome an estimated 500 motorcycles from New York City from the FDNY Fire Family Transport Organization, who are arriving to dedicate a piece of World Trade Center steel which will be erected at the Shanksville Fire Hall on North Street.

While the riders have not scheduled a visit to the memorial as a group, they will no doubt visit there some time during their stay in Somerset County. Another 700-motorcycle ride and brief visit is scheduled for August 31 by an Altoona-based group raising money for charities.

Moving of the Temporary Memorial:

Members of the Temporary Memorial Management Committee have participated in planning meetings preceding and during the move of the temporary memorial to the new property across Skyline Road. The committee members, having experience in construction, road building, and maintenance, and a practical knowledge of the site and the way it is used by visitors, have been a valuable part of the planning team. The end result of this collaboration between the Task Force Committee, volunteers, and the National Park Service is a new temporary memorial which will meet the needs of the public to safely view the crash site, to learn about the events which unfolded there and in the skies above, to meditate quietly, to pay their respects, and to leave tributes, if they wish. The Temporary Memorial Management Committee is grateful for the level of consideration which was given to this project by the National Park Service staff who worked here and appreciative of the way in which the volunteer Ambassadors have been informed about the project before and during its completion. Numerous Ambassadors were able to help with the re-location of tributes to the new site.

The National Park Service will provide more detailed information about the new temporary memorial site and the work that was done to create it.

Adam Shaffer presented the following report:

There are 16 new volunteer enlistments since May.

On July 3rd, a group of campers from Camp Allegheny volunteered to do a clean up project. There are also two new teenage volunteers, Jessica Trent, a student at Shanksville High School, and Daniel Zwick, son of Ambassadors, Dave and Donna Zwick.

Sharon Knowles assists weekly in Collections at the park office, and volunteer transcriber Suzanne Heller received Ambassador training.

On May 8th, 2008, Barbara Black, Donna Glessner, Adam Shaffer, Bob and Donna Schmucker, Marlin Miller attended the Hartzog award ceremony in Washington DC receiving the Group Award. The award recipients were shuttled to the Interior Building after the ceremony where the representatives were congratulated by Mary Bomar, Director of the National Park Service.

Barbara Black presented the following report:

The moving of the temporary memorial involved many partnerships, which included the Temporary Memorial Management Committee, the National Park Service, including Arch Thompson, Chief of Maintenance from Allegheny Portage.

An informational brochure was created to let the public know what was happening. There were no public complaints. Ground work began on July 7th. The new memorial is directly across the road from the old memorial maintaining a direct sight-line to the crash site.

The shelter, originally from Assateague Island National Seashore was refurbished.

A canopy was put up to give the Ambassadors and park visitors some shade due to the excessive heat.

There is a post and rail fence around the temporary memorial to delineate the parking lot from the temporary memorial and for safety issues. Somerset Rural Electric Company donated their time in digging post holes for the tribute fence and to move the cross and dig post holes. REC dug holes for the cross and flagpoles. Clearview Monuments of Shanksville was contracted to move the large monuments. The tributes from the old tribute fence were moved by volunteers and then put back up on the new fence. Christine Fraser and Joy Stella, family members, assisted in putting the tributes up. The benches were also moved by volunteers.

The new temporary memorial allows for more parking. The memorial move was completed in the allotted goal of August 5, 2008, one month before the required move date.

Chairman Reynolds, representing the Federal Advisory Commission and Patrick White and Jerry Spangler, representing the Task Force read a letter thanking the National Park Service:

We want to extend a heartfelt thanks to you and your staff for a job well done in moving the temporary Flight 93 National Memorial. We know that the complexity, sensitivity and demands of working in the public eye every day were tremendous; all of you did a stellar job in representing the National Park Service, the Flight 93 Memorial project partners, and the heroes who gave their lives on Flight 93.

All of you worked many long hours in the hot sun, and gave of your personal and professional time to ensure this project was completed on schedule, sacrificing work at your home parks. Many of you gave up the opportunity to work fire-duty for this project, and for that we are extremely grateful.

We are proud of you and what you've done for us. Your high quality workmanship will help us provide a dignified, solemn and meaningful memorial experience for thousands of visitors. Perhaps more importantly, we know that you did this from the heart.

Co-Chair Spangler also read a letter from the Task Force Co-Chairs, Patrick White and Jerry Spangler, and Chairman John Reynolds of the Federal Advisory Commission thanking the National Park Service Volunteers:

Over the last few weeks, you've volunteered your time and your talents to ensure that the move of the temporary memorial tributes has been respectful, dignified, and done with the utmost care. You give of yourselves over and over, whether as an Ambassador at the temporary memorial greeting visitors, transcribing oral histories in the office, or taking care of the archives and tribute collection. Your endless well of caring and deep concern for the Families of Flight 93 and the Flight 93 Memorial project provides a solid bedrock of inspiration for all of us.

You stand ready to come and serve on a moments notice. When the clarion cry for help is issued, you are there, no matter the circumstances; day or night, rain or shine. We thank you for giving of your personal time, and choosing to be our partner. We look forward to the day, when soon, we will all be volunteering to cut the ribbon for the permanent memorial with you.

C. Government Liaison Briefing Report

Co-Chair White provided the following report:

Co-Chair White announced that one of the members of their DC Lobbying Team, Will Hollier, is present today.

Federal Appropriations and Federal Funding

- a. Obtained \$3 million in federal funding from Fiscal Year 2009's Senate Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Appropriations Bill through implementation of FY09 appropriations strategy, which included:
 - i. Submission of appropriations requests for funding from three distinct appropriations accounts - National Park Service Construction (added \$1.2 million request still pending), Transportation High Priorities, and Transportation Federal Lands - to Senators Specter and Casey and Representatives Shuster, Murtha, Peterson, and Dent
 - ii. Additional submissions of Interior Appropriations requests to Senate Subcommittee Chair Feinstein, House Subcommittee Chair Dicks, and House Subcommittee Ranking Member Tiahrt
 - iii. Scheduled, prepared briefing materials for, and participated in FF93 Hill Day meetings with Senators Specter and Casey; Representative Shuster; House Transportation Appropriations Subcommittee Chair John Olver and Ranking Member Joe Knollenberg; and Senate Majority and Minority Transportation Appropriations staff
 - iv. Scheduled, prepared briefing materials for, and participated in FF93 meeting with White House Political Affairs staff
 - v. Obtained letters of support for appropriations requests from the Somerset County Board of Commissioners, Stonycreek Township, and Indian Lake Township
 - vi. Worked with Rep. Shuster's staff to obtain PennDOT letter of support (pending)
 - vii. Held continuous meetings and discussions with the Pennsylvania delegation and House and Senate Interior and Transportation Appropriations Subcommittees
 - viii. Held continuous discussions with FF93 Board and NPS regarding NPS budget requests, Hill staff requests for additional information and follow-up documents, and FY08 Federal Highway Administration pass-through funding

- b) Continue to monitor status of Interior legislation for appropriation (Senate markup scheduled for July 24th)
- c) Discussions with key staff regarding possibility of memorial funding inclusion in possible second supplemental legislation

Department of Interior

- a) Scheduled and prepared briefing materials for meeting with NPS Director Bomar's Chief of Staff Sue Masica
- b) Held continuous discussions with NPS regarding meeting with Secretary Kempthorne on appraisal concerns, design controversy, and meeting the 10 year timeline

Land Appraisal

- a) Responded to inquiries from congressional staff regarding Svonavec issue

Congressional Medal of Honor/Presidential Medal of Honor/Congressional Plaque

- a) Devised strategy for and held continuous discussions with White House staff regarding obtaining Presidential Medal of Honor for Flight 93 passengers and crew
- b) Scheduled, prepared briefing papers for, and participated in meeting with White House Political Affairs Director Brian McCormack
- b) Held continuous discussions with Senators Schumer and Specter staff regarding introduction of legislation and original co-sponsorship for Congressional Gold Medal.
- c) Held continuous discussions with Representative Shuster staff regarding status of Gold Medal legislation and placement of Capitol Plaque

Media/PR

- a) Held meetings with the Majority and Minority Staff Directors of the House National Resources and Senate Energy and National Resources Subcommittees on National Parks
- b) Obtained meeting with and participated in meeting with Representative Tancredo resulting in a commitment to no longer oppose the memorial; held follow up discussions with staff regarding subsequent use of Mr. Tancredo's name in mailings to Senator Casey
- c) Held discussions with and drafted letter for Senators Specter and Casey and Representative Shuster staff requesting individual or collective endorsement of the design and process ceremony once construction is completed.

D. Communications Report

Consultant William Haworth and Deborah Borza provided the following report:

Sub Topic – 7th Anniversary News

Deborah Borza presented a summary of the events and thanked the community for their commitment, love, and dedication.

- September 10th Somerset Alliance Church
 - 6:30pm Prelude by the Somerset County Community Band
 - 7pm – 8pm
 - Reading of the names of the Flight 93 crew and passengers by family and community members
 - Invocation by Rev. Vandervort of the Somerset Alliance Church
 - Moment of Silence by Rev. Britton, brother of Marian Britton
 - Benediction by Rev. Robert Way of the Lutheran Ministries of Somerset County
 - Speaker Gordon Felt, brother of Edward Felt and President of the Families of Flight 93
 - Keynote speakers Pamela Tokar-Ickes, Somerset County Commissioner and Flight 93 Advisory Commissioner, and Jerry Spangler, Somerset County District Attorney and Flight 93 Advisory Commissioner
 - Musical selections by the Somerset County Community Band
 - 8pm – 8:15pm Postlude by the Somerset County Community Band
 - Reception following
- September 11th Temporary Memorial Site
 - 9:45am
 - Reading of the names of the Flight 93 crew and passengers by family and community members along with tolling of the Bells of Remembrance
 - Speaker Gordon Felt
 - Wreath laying by dignitaries

Consultant Haworth presented a summary of the national tribute of the forty heroes to be held in Washington DC on September 11th. This event is intended to create awareness. There are more than 232 members of Congress and the entire Congressional leadership who have signed on as sponsors. Also expected to attend are donors, celebrity guests, and regional and national media.

A highlight for the Communications' division occurred in May when the Families of Flight 93 assembled in Pittsburgh for a news conference. Family members included Patrick White, Gordon Felt, Sandy Felt, Ed Root, Esther Heymann and Ben Waino.

A video highlight of the news conference was shown at the meeting.

E. Archives Committee Briefing Report

Acting Site Manager Barbara Black and Joy Stella presented the following report:
Oral History and Documentation Project

Kathie Shaffer has completed 400 oral histories since the first oral history in April 2005! Kathie has been concentrating much of her time these past three months in editing the transcribed interviews being typed by 6 volunteers and 3 staff.

114 interviews are with families and friends, representing 28 out of the 40 passengers and crew.

215 (54% of the oral histories conducted) have been transcribed by 6 volunteers and 3 staff members. 77 oral histories are completely through the process to the finished transcript and signed release documents.

Jacob Miller, SCA intern, is beginning to convert the interviews from an audio cassette tape to a digital format. In the future, all interviews will be available electronically, both in sound and in transcript.

Tribute Collection

The conversion of the Tribute Collection catalog records and numbering system to the National Park Service system is still ongoing. Almost 60% of the first two years of tributes have been re-numbered (October 2001 to January 2003).

With the recent move of the Temporary Memorial, several thousand tributes were collected that have weathered over the summer and are being temporarily stored until the conversion project is complete.

Joy Stella, speaking for the Family members, thanked Barbara and Kathie for their pursuit of excellence in this project.

F. Interpretive Planning Briefing Report

Acting Site Manager Barbara Black presented the following report on behalf of David Larsen who was not present:

University Partnerships

Phase I of the Flight 93 Primary Interpretive Themes Project is continuing. The current work focuses on analyzing existing data such as oral histories and tributes. Phase II began in July and will concentrate on collecting and analyzing visitor and non-visitor data.

Dr. Alan Barstow of the University of Pennsylvania extended work on the Flight 93 Memorial project course offered by the Organizational Dynamics Program with a summer course of 4 graduate students. They are continuing work on the existing data in the Tribute Collection.

The cooperative agreement with Portland State University is now in place and Dr. Eric Mankowski can begin work with his graduate students in coding oral histories. Twenty-four completed transcripts of oral histories were recently sent electronically to Dr. Mankowski and an equal number will be transferred in the next few months. The oral histories were randomly selected from all categories of family members, eyewitnesses, first responders, recovery and investigation teams, and community members.

The Academic Research Team consisting of Dr. Duffin, Dr. Barstow, and Dr. Mankowski have been analyzing and testing the National Park Services' informational system for public comment, PEPC (Planning, Environment, and Public Comment). This system has been in use by the park service for several years and is a vehicle for the public to comment on forthcoming projects. It is also an internal management system for communicating about the project to other NPS staff and contractors, and for analysis of the comments. The team has determined that the system is adequate for the type of comment and analysis needed for this project and would benefit the park service through the use of an existing (already funded) system that could also be used by other parks replicating this project.

Dr. Michael Duffin and David Larsen cleared the intended project of Phase II with the federal Office of Management and Budget to get approval for visitor interviews that have started this summer. Dr. Duffin, Dr. Barstow and 3 University of Pennsylvania graduate students, and Barbara Black and Adam Shaffer from Flight 93 NM worked together the weekend of July 19-20 to conduct a total of 12 conversational groups with nearly 50 visitors. Visitors were asked to volunteer for a "special opportunity" to "tell us what you think!" They were offered shade, cold water, a chair and a small gift if they would give us their thoughts. The facilitator in each group started with open-ended questions, such as "What does Flight 93 mean to you?" allowing people to direct the content of what they wanted to say rather than answering specific questions. Many people told their story of what happened to them and their families on September 11, and how they felt that day. All expressed their feelings about the passengers and crew and the families they left behind. Some went deeper in thought and talked about the importance and/or impact of Flight 93 and September 11. Some talked about how the passengers and crew should be honored and remembered. The conversations were recorded, detailed notes were taken during the session, observations were made about the individuals in the group and any personal information they might have revealed without prompting, and a debriefing took place by the team after each group of visitors left. In the next few weeks, the team will have discussions about what worked and perhaps what needs to be changed for subsequent conversational groups.

G. Friends Group

Co-Chair Spangler presented the following report:

Co-Chair Spangler advised that steps were taken already by contacting other friends groups. Co-Chair Spangler suggested that after the next Federal Advisory Commission meeting in November that they have a workshop where people can make suggestions and give their input.

Co-Chair White added that their group meets on a monthly basis and they have been working on their by-laws and other aspects of forming a group.

Co-Chair White advised that the Flight 93 Task Force portion of the meeting was complete and Chairman Reynolds called for a 7 minute break.

V. Flight 93 Advisory Commission Briefing Reports

Commissioner Spangler recognized the Remember Me Rose Garden, courtesy of Sue Casey for bringing the roses to the meeting. Mary Alice Mankamyer is representing them today.

Chairman Reynolds advised there are 4 topics that the Federal Advisory will discuss to include lands, design, fund raising and the national park service, followed by the public comment period.

A. Land Acquisition Briefing Report

Superintendent Hanley presented the following report:

National Park Service Report

Following is an update of National Park Service (NPS) land acquisition activities at Flight 93 National Memorial (FLNI) since the Commission/Task Force meeting, May 3, 2008.

The NPS is working with the Families on the title to the former PBS Coals property as a requisite to NPS acquisition. The NPS is also very close to having acid mine drainage issues as well as title issues addressed by DEP.

The NPS is preparing to acquire the former O'Barto property from The Families of Flight 93 as soon as all title requirements have been met.

The NPS is in negotiations with a resident landowner and family on Skyline Road to purchase their 1-acre property and relocate the family to a replacement.

As soon as title issues are resolved on the former Mock property (Tract 01-114), NPS will acquire the property from the current owners, the Families of Flight 93.

The NPS continues to work on the Rollock property on the acquisition and relocation of their recycling/salvage business. NPS recently contracted with a relocation advisory specialist having professional expertise in moving a business of this kind.

The NPS and the Families of Flight 93 have worked together to complete land surveys on the Svonavec, Rollock, former Mock and PBS Coals properties, and on the Seymour Estate and Alvin Lambert properties, all within the boundary of the Flight 93 National Memorial.

The NPS is working with The Conservation Fund (Tract 01-124) toward the acquisition of the mineral interests formerly owned by PBS Coals. An appraisal will be scheduled sometime in the future.

Concerning the Svonavec property, Svonavec, Inc., is a willing seller, and has participated in the Federal acquisition process. The NPS made a written offer to Svonavec, Inc., in 2006, reaffirmed that offer in June 2008, and that offer is valid and still stands. The NPS is awaiting a response.

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, seamless communication and coordination.

Conservation Fund Report

The Conservation Fund (TCF) has worked with the Pennsylvania Game Commission (PGC) and the NPS to incorporate two additional properties into the new State Game Land 93 (SGL93). These parcels were donated by Consol Energy. These include the 140-acre property adjacent to the Memorial boundary that was donated several years ago, as well as another non-contiguous 100-acre parcel to the northeast that was donated last fall in commemoration of the sixth anniversary of 9/11. Both TCF and PGC are actively talking 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 tract now owned by PBS Coal to the PGC for inclusion into SGL93 - currently waiting for a decision on the "rose garden" concept before proceeding. SGL93 serves as a buffer for the Memorial and complements the work of the NPS.

TCF sold the Marion 7400 dragline in 2006, and it has been removed from the premises. The larger dragline (Marion 7500) has also been sold, and has now been removed from the premises as well. The site appears to have been left clean and graded. The decision to remove the draglines was addressed in the General Management Plan and approved by all partners.

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 in 2008-09. The NPS appraisal process is underway.

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.

Co-Chair White presented the following report:

PBS acquisition: Families were able to execute and provide the NPS license agreements for the temporary memorial and parking sites. The Families are aware of the matters with the title and are working to get a third party appraisal to expedite the land transfer to the NPS. Discussed with DEP, Joe Pizarchik, updating on the status of how the issues pertaining to the consent order will ultimately be resolved in time for the one year they anticipates in turning the property over to the NPS.

The Families have engaged in the services of a local attorney, Mr. Robert Lewis to assist with title issues, and other aspects.

The next largest tract the Families are actively in pursuit to acquire is the Tim Lambert property of 171 acres. A big challenge is coming up with a fair price with all the different land parcels, because each is different and each has different attributes. Mr. Lambert is still intending to donate the six acre parcel that is on the sacred grounds.

The O'Barto property is almost ready for NPS acquisition, but first needs two small legal descriptions to be changed in order to move forward.

On the Mock property, the Families are prepared to execute a license agreement at anytime the terms are agreed upon. There is a small title issue pertaining to the tax deed, although that is expected to be resolved.

In regards to the properties pertaining to the “notch” on the western side of the PBS acquisition, the K. Lambert and Seymore properties, after title issues are resolved, the Families hope to have the appraisals completed.

The Families had discussions with The Conservation Fund on the 67 acres owned by PBS. There were issues with the actual location of the cell tower, but that is probably resolved. Discussions with PennDOT, Keith Newlin and others were made in trying to determine where the approximate access point to the memorial will be from US 30, taking in consideration the dangerous hill.

B. Memorial Design Briefing Report

Superintendent Hanley presented the following report:

Superintendent Hanley began the memorial design presentation with a refresher, showing those who have never seen architect Paul Murdoch’s slides and the actual renderings of what will be built. These slides are to also remind people of the beauty, the dignity, and the serenity of the memorial to honor the 40 heroes of Flight 93.

The first slide was a panoramic view of the site envisioned as the memorial landscape. At a heroic scale, commensurate with the actions of the 40 heroes on board Flight 93, the memorial highlights the *common field one day* that became *a field of honor forever*.

The next slide showed the full extent of the 2,200 acre park. The north entry occurs at Route 30 with a memorial feature, the Tower of Voices. The approach road crosses through mining areas to arrive where the flight path crossed the large, circular-shaped landform called the Bowl. In the memorial design, the Bowl becomes the Field of Honor. Its focal point is the impact site, within what has become known as the Sacred Ground. Perimeter properties will provide view-shed protection and buffer the park from abrupt potential commercial uses.

The third slide shows the centerpiece of the memorial landscape, which is a landform known as the Bowl. The memorial design frames the Bowl, as a Field of Honor, with trees circling the entire bowl in a national gesture of embrace that orients visitors toward the Sacred Ground. Superintendent Hanley also added that one cannot build a memorial that is more compelling or respectful than the resting place of the 40 heroes of Flight 93. One can see the flight path of Flight 93 depicted in two places – first where the plane came over the bowl, and second where the plane came to rest. These two places are the exact locations over which the 40 heroes forced the plane down, and therefore not reaching its intended target – Washington DC. These flight path locations depict a victory over terrorism, where our heroes wrestled their way to victory. During the first phase of construction to be completed by September 11, 2011, known as Phase 1A, the Bowl will be graded, and the ring road will be built, taking visitors down to the sacred ground. Visitors will encounter multiple landscape experiences as they drive around the Bowl on their way to its focus, the Sacred Ground.

The next slide showed the focal point of the entire park, the Sacred Ground; it is the most important place, it is the reason the memorial was established by Congress, and it too will be part of Phase 1A of construction to be built by September 11, 2011. It is the location of the plane crash and the final resting place of the 40 heroes. Visitors will be able to approach the edge of the crash site, but not enter. That will still be reserved for the families. Set against a backdrop of hemlock trees that absorbed the impact of the crash, the Sacred Ground will be planted in wildflowers that will bloom from spring through fall. On one of the walls the names of the 40 heroes will be inscribed on a band of white stone. September 11, 2001 will be inscribed on the other wall. As the next phase of the design is entered, decisions will be made on what materials and what stone to use for both the walls and for the plaza. The wall will probably be about 200 to 300 feet shorter than originally designed, because of the hard survey, geotechnical and engineering data that they did not have previously. The exact location and orientation will not be finalized until the construction drawing phase.

The next slide shows the ceremonial gateway for family members, that will occur along the flight path between two walls, depicting the very location where the heroes of Flight 93 fought and overcame the terrorists, causing that plane to go into the ground, and winning the battle. This flight path honors the actions of the passengers and crew.

The next slide shows the entry portal, which will be constructed along with the visitor center during the second phase of construction called Phase 1B. Visitors will arrive at the location where the flight path crossed that first edge of the Bowl. Large memorial walls will frame the sky where the plane flew overhead as the passengers and crew bravely fought their winning battle, stopping that plane from continuing to DC. Here, visitors will enter along the flight path and get their first view of the expanse of the Bowl and the crash site below. Between these memorial walls will be the park's interpretive center, the visitor facility.

The next slide shows a tree-lined walkway, which will embrace the Field of Honor. This will be built at the same time as the portal walls and visitor center as part of Phase 1B. This "allee" will be flanked by 40 memorial groves, one for each of the 40 heroes. Each grove will have 40 trees of various native species in a formal arrangement. The NPS, the partners, and Paul Murdoch are working with a group of arborists, foresters and horticulturists to determine the best mix of trees, so that a monoculture would not be planted and be susceptible to disease and pests.

The next slide of the western outlook shows the western edge of the Field of Honor, an area overlooking the Sacred Ground. This area offers some site history, from mining operations to the forensics investigation following the crash. A trail through this area and planted trees will allow visitors to return to the entrance while experiencing where the families were first brought after the crash. This part of the memorial will also be built during Phase 1B.

The last slides show the 2 ½ mile entry road from Route 30 to the Bowl, which will be built as Phase 1C and the Tower of Voices, which will also be built in future phases. The Tower serves as a landmark from the highway, marking the gateway to the park. Set among rings of pine trees, the tower houses 40 wind chimes that present through sound a living memory of the passengers and crewmembers. The last memory of many was through their voices on calls from United 93, and of the rushing wind.

Superintendent Hanley also presented a design update from the design team:

On April 10, the design team submitted the Final Schematic Design (SD) for Phase 1 scope, Following, the NPS submitted comments to the design team based on review of the Phase 1A SD submittal.

On June 10 & 11, Paul Murdoch design team representatives met with NPS in Denver and by conference call to review the schematic design comments and clarify the scope of work required for the next design phases.

On July 7, NPS met with the Ambassadors Advisory Group to discuss operational issues at the Sacred Ground arrival plaza and parking area. NPS summarized their design observations and programming recommendations for this area and presented to the design team for evaluation in design development

On July 11, NPS, Paul Murdoch and the Design Oversight Committee (DOC) met by conference call to review the main issues discussed in Denver on June 10 & 11, including the Schematic Design changes and the schedule and phases of work going forward.

The Design Development phase is scheduled through December 30 and the Construction Drawing phase, which is scheduled to be completed in May 2009, in preparation for a May/June approval by the Director of the NPS.

The survey mapping has now been completed in preparation for Design Development phase work. It appears from the new survey that significant redesign work will be required for the Sacred Ground plaza and parking area. This work will occur in the first month of the DD phase.

The wetlands delineation began with a site visit by the consultant, Louis Berger of Washington DC, on July 9. The design team and NPS require this information for the Design Development Phase to evaluate regulatory impacts and determine ramifications to the design and schedule and to complete required compliance needs. A series of conferences are anticipated between the consultant and the design team throughout the DD and CD phases

Another upcoming task is to study dynamic compaction for structural foundations. Many of the memorial features will be built on reclaimed mining land. Research will have to be done to find out if any settlement of the land will occur from these structures, and if the structures need to be moved, or reoriented in any way, shape or form.

In anticipation of moving modular units to the old Mock property, now owned by the Families for National Park Service headquarters, administration and visitor contact, the testing of wells for water flow and quality have been completed. The work on the property and the move is scheduled for this fall, continuing into the spring of 2009.

C. Fundraising Briefing

King Laughlin of the Flight 93 National Memorial Campaign presented the following report:

The Flight 93 National Memorial Campaign has made progress across several fronts since the May 2008 meeting of the Advisory Commission and Task Force. The phased campaign approach is opening up new opportunities and is showing progress in the form of increased solicitations and commitments. The campaign would also like to recognize Moose International, Mitsubishi Electric Power Products, the Pittsburgh Foundation, and Anheuser-Busch for recent contributions to the Campaign.

Campaign Summary

Funds raised for the campaign stand at \$12.9 million through the quarter ending June 30, 2008. Just under \$1 million has been raised since the beginning of the year through major giving initiatives, the direct mail program, website giving, grassroots contributions, and donations collected at the temporary memorial. An additional \$800,000 has been verbally committed during this quarter, and next month the campaign will be submitting proposals for an additional \$2 million in funding.

Cultivation and Solicitation

The Campaign operates across many fronts involving leadership, volunteers, and staff, and initiatives to cultivate and solicit donors for gifts to support the Memorial are ongoing. Outstanding solicitations, proposals, and program concepts under consideration by potential donors could result in gifts totaling \$1.2 million to \$3.4 million for the campaign this year.

National Campaign Steering Committee

Members of the National Campaign Steering Committee are actively pursuing initiatives and activities for the campaign. Some notable projects underway are:

- “93 Cents for Flight 93”, presented by Sharon Dietrich and Patrick Maloney, continues to develop in schools and school districts from Washington state to Washington, DC. A special “Heroes Week” (September 8-13) is being created at Kent State University featuring several educational programs about Flight 93 and culminating in a “benefit football game” for Flight 93 in the university’s new stadium.
- The American Legion, the nation’s largest veteran service organization, will be voting on a resolution in support of Flight 93 during its annual national convention in late August. *Legion* magazine is also featuring an article on 9/11 and Flight 93.
- The State of California is preparing to announce an initiative designating September 2008 as a period of statewide recognition for the passengers and crewmembers of Flight 93. The governor will be issuing a proclamation and public service announcement, and the state’s more-than-700,000 employees will be encouraged to make donations to the Campaign.

Communications

The first issue of *93 Remembered: Honoring the 40 Heroes of Flight 93* has been completed and is being distributed to over 30,000 donors and friends of the Flight 93 National Memorial

project. The newsletter (produced by Time, Inc., the publisher of *Parks* magazine) will be an important outreach tool to campaign volunteers and will be a consistent means for communication with project donors about the progress of the Memorial. The six-page newsletter includes a “bounce-back” mechanism to facilitate donations to the campaign. A newly-formed Communications Committee will oversee a second issue reporting on the September 11 commemorative activities which will be completed in late October.

A National Tribute to the 40 Heroes of Flight 93

A special event honoring the Heroes of Flight 93 is being planned in Washington DC on September 11, 2008. The by-invitation event is intended to bring together project Partners with current and prospective donors to benefit the campaign and generate additional funding through sponsorships and ticket sales. Over 200 members of Congress have also pledged their support for this event. More information about the event can be found at www.honorflight93.org.

Upcoming Dates

August 23-28. American Legion National Convention

September 11. A National Tribute to the 40 Heroes of Flight 93

September 8-13. “Heroes Week” at Kent State University

November 18. Greater Southwest Houston Chamber of Commerce Hometown Heroes and Flight 93

Summary

With a new blueprint for fundraising success, focusing on the first phases of the Memorial’s design and construction, we are seeing new doors being opened for the campaign to potential donors who recognize the achievability and urgency of dedicating the memorial in 2011. As summer comes to a close, we are looking ahead to a busy and productive fall for the campaign.

D. National Park Service

Superintendent Hanley read the following report:

Good morning.

My name is Joanne Hanley, and I am the Superintendent of five national park sites in western Pennsylvania. Fort Necessity National Battlefield, Friendship Hill National Historic Site, Allegheny Portage RR National Historic Site, Johnstown Flood National Memorial and Flight 93 National Memorial. These are five out of the 391 national park sites in this country that have been set aside to protect the outstanding beauty, scenery, wildlife, and history of this great nation. As a caretaker, I take my stewardship role seriously.

Today, we are going to have a different kind of National Park Service update and briefing.

Since I am the caretaker and steward here in western Pennsylvania, as well as live here with my family, I think you should know, that you have a right to know, your Superintendent: who she is, her priorities, her allegiances, and her professional and personal feelings about this project.

First, my priorities and allegiances:

1. My number one priority in life is to my Lord and my God;
2. Second, is my family;
3. Third, is to my country;
4. Fourth is my avocation, which is my calling to be a public servant; and manage these special places in America with integrity, honesty and collaboration;
5. Fifth, is my vocation - my day-to-day job - part of which is planning, developing and implementing the Flight 93 National Memorial.

Today, as a public servant, I'll talk about where the intersection of country, avocation, and vocation come together and meet, for me.

Folks have tried to threaten, cajole, and intimidate me many times on this project. I have been told over the last three years – that

“you will be destroyed;”

“you are a liar;”

“you will be ruined;”

“we can save your life;” or

“you can be a hero.”

I want to make it clear that my destruction, my ruin, my saving or my heroism does not rest in the hands of these men. My motivation comes from my priorities and allegiances.

And here is what I know about where this project stands; it stands on the truth. Truth does not change; it is not based on changing facts to fit a theory; it is bedrock.

Here are our truths:

- The project partners took many years to develop a strong relationship and a strong administrative structure for the entire project. Before embarking on a design process, we developed trust.
- We examined many different options for a design process, and together, chose our competition managers, juries, and a two-stage international design competition process.
- Every step of the process was open and collaborative among the partners and the public.
- Family members and partners worked shoulder-to-shoulder every step of the way.
- Every step of the process was inclusive, inviting public comment, in an open forum, and honored the democratic value of free speech.
- The majority of Stage 2 jurors voted for the winning design; the jury report shows that every single juror stated he or she would support it.
- The initial design was refined in response to Stage 2 jury comments. The design continues to be refined as we select construction materials, plants, and its orientation and location based on further geotechnical and engineering surveys.
- We have nothing to hide; we are built on a strong foundation.

These truths have not waivered, drifted or changed over the many years. The truth is, our process worked, and the only reason there is any lingering dialogue about the memorial, is because others have tried and continue to try and change the truth.

Over the last three years, folks have tried to penetrate, to attack and to discredit this project from many different angles. Some attempts at the truth had the appearance of being very scholarly and mathematically complex; others are just made-up.

Each penetration has not been successful, so when one truth does not work, another truth has been tried.

For example, I recently learned on a blog the supposed “real reason” that the draglines were sold. This blog stated that they were sold by the Park Service because “the draglines would taint the giant mosque structure”, and “Paul Murdoch got rid of the drag lines, so he could get rid of the American flag, rising up 180 feet behind the giant mihrab.”

Several times at our meetings here in the past, I’ve reported that the reason we are not purchasing the draglines is because of the tremendous costs involved;

- purchase cost of \$800,000;
- initial stabilization cost of \$850,000;
- \$1 million every 15 to 20 years for maintenance;
- \$10,000 every year for 10% of a maintenance workers time and salary

In addition, the family board voted to support selling the draglines. As Superintendent, if I had to prioritize a decision as to how to spend a million dollars on maintenance, it would probably be on the Sacred Ground, the memorial, and the visitor center, in that order.

Clearly this truth did not work.

Another recent example: the National Park Service’s website states that the “circle of embrace follows the topography of the bowl, and is symbolically broken in two places – where the plane went overhead and entered the bowl, and where the plane crashed.” Some have cried that the National Park Service has renamed the design the “broken circle” in honor of an al-Qaeda, or terrorist, victory.

We believe however, that this circle of embrace and the demarcation of the flight path and the crash site, honors the heroism of the 40 passengers and crew as they fought courageously, over those exact locations, to take back the plane from the hijackers. It marks exactly where the first battle in the war on terror was won.

Clearly, this truth did not work either.

There are many more examples.

We have not waivered; we stand on the truth; we have nothing to hide.

Truth:

- This project was started by 40 heroes, who loved freedom and democracy; who were patriots.
- This project will be completed by people who love freedom and democracy, who love this country, and who are also patriots.
- This is a labor, an avocation and a vocation of love. The will of the families, the partners and the American people will be done.
- I am proud of what we've accomplished; I am proud to be a part of this; and I am proud to be an American.
- Your Superintendent loves this country. I love the ideals, the morals, the truth and the character upon which the founding fathers built this country.
- Thirty years ago, when I embarked on my vocation and avocation, I took an oath, as did all of the Federal Advisory Commissioners sitting here, to defend the Constitution of the United States, so help me God. That oath still stands today, perhaps even burning brighter and stronger.

E. Old business

None

F. New business.

The next meeting will be held on November 1, 2008 at Somerset County Courthouse at 10:00 a.m.

VII. Public Comment

Chairman Reynolds reminded all that the public comment period is to benefit the Commission in their legal responsibilities to the Director of the National Park Service and to the Secretary of Interior and to advise them on issues. Chairman Reynolds also read the following four letters from people who could not attend the meeting, but wished to make a comment:

Letter One

Dear Superintendent Hanley,

I am disappointed that I can not attend the August 2, 2008 meeting in support of the monumental effort by countless, genuine and sincere people who have brought the Flight 93 National Memorial Park to this point in time. Consequently, my comments will be brief in hopes that you will have opportunity to publicly present them.

I am a civilian, federalized by the National Disaster Medical System (US Dept of Health & Human Services) at the time of disaster emergency. I am a trained forensic scientist, who was in Shanksville for the full duration of our disaster team operation to identify the remains of the passengers and crew of Flight 93. In the aftermath, I was privileged to be appointed and serve as our forensic disaster team's representative on the Flight 93 Task Force.

As a citizen holding the foundation values of the United States of America, my greatest lifetime pride, equaled only by family, is two-fold. It is my public service and association with the Task

Force, Commission, and Families of Flight 93, and, my proud endorsement of the design competition, selection process outcome and continuing progress for our Heroes of Flight 93. I hope my pride extends to the range of perspectives present there today; and to the media's accurate, responsible and respectful representation of the proceedings: "A common field one day, A field of Honor forever."

Thank you,

Warren Tewes, DDS, MS
Diplomate, American Board of Forensic Odontology
Lead Forensic Dentist, OCME, State of Maryland
Faculty, NCIC Dental Coding
FBI CJIS Division, Clarksburg, WV
Member, Advisory Policy Board
National Missing and Unidentified Persons Reporting System
NamUs.gov, NIJ/DOJ

Letter Two

Attention: Joanne Hanley

RE: Mr. Tom Burnett's disapproval of the Memorial scheduled to be built honoring those on
United Flight 93

Please read the following letter into the minutes of the Flight 93 board meeting scheduled for August 2, 2008.

I served on the Jury to select the final design for the Flight 93 Memorial along with Mr. Burnett. As I recall, Tom liked the design with a line of rocks along a 2 ½ mile walking trail. He indicated in his discussion with me that when it came to final vote that this would be the design of his choice. After the vote was taken and his design was not chosen he was very upset. Not once during these discussions did he mention that the design chosen by a majority vote of the committee had anything to do with a "symbol to the terrorist" as he is now saying.

The final design was chosen because its' layout fit the landscape where the plane crashed and kept with the surrounding area.

I believe that Mr. Burnett has forgotten that this memorial is for 40 individual people who were on a flight taken over by terrorists and that all 40 of those people became heroes that day. All he is accomplishing at this point is causing other families aggravation and needless controversy.

We need to forge ahead with the plans as voted upon and join together as one just like our loved-ones did on United Flight 93, September 11, 2001.

Respectfully,
Gerald Bingham
Father of Mark Bingham

Letter Three

I served as a family member on the Stage II jury that selected the winning design for the Flight 93 National Memorial. It was an emotional, memorable and difficult experience. That decision was the end result of a long and democratic process which encouraged input and comment at every level along that path. We honor the 40 Heroes of Flight 93 in great part for their ability to react democratically, as well as to physically respond, to the act of terror that enveloped them. It is this democratic spirit of free born peoples that we celebrate while commemorating their physical attack on those who would have destroyed more of their fellow citizens in our nation's Capital.

Those who oppose this Memorial, for whatever misplaced reasons, have voiced their belief on numerous occasions. That is a striking example of the democracy we hold dear. When those unfounded beliefs turn to a zealotry that attempts to overthrow the very democratic process that selected the winning design it does a terrible disservice to those who worked long and diligently during the design process and, to me, it mocks those very 40 that we long to honor. Our nation is one of laws and due process. To let a few destroy what many have built is not democracy, but tyranny.

Sincerely,
Edwin Root

Letter Four

As a Stage I Juror, my task, along with the other Flight 93 family members and the professionals on the Jury, was to narrow down five final designs from the 1100 submissions; a daunting task indeed.

With hard work, long hours, and a strong determination to find five representative designs that would work as a fitting tribute to the forty heroes on Flight 93, the Stage I Jury submitted five finalists to the Stage II Jury whose task was to select the final design to be built as the Flight 93 National Memorial in Shanksville, PA.

The Design Competition was one of the most positive experiences I have had since the loss of my dear Mother on Flight 93. It was an opportunity to know that a beautiful piece of art will stand at the place where forty strangers came together as one, to fight an evil force whose only purpose was to kill innocent people in the name of their extremist religion.

To have to now thwart off further attacks by those who dislike the design, or find it offensive in some way, is another tragedy in the making. It reminds me of an old French Proverb that states, "He who seeks evil will find it." Maybe that's a right prescribed by living in a free, democratic state. However, I am also free to stand up proudly and support Paul Murdoch's design as the one to represent healing and reflection as it protects and preserves the sacred cemetery where the forty passengers and crewmembers' remains lie.

I hope, in the name of the forty who gave their lives here, that the forces of the human race can and will come together to honor those who are so deserving, and hold them dear to their hearts as they will be remembered and loved long after this conflict has passed.

Carole O'Hare

Calvin Wilson

Commissioner Wilson thanked the Advisory Commission, the Task Force and the Ambassadors for all the work they have done. He also said he was deeply disturbed that someone could think of Superintendent Hanley as un-American. He also added that it is more deeply disturbing that Americans are acting like terrorists, especially in this community. He has seen wonderful people in this area support this memorial. He continued that for Superintendent Hanley to be threatened for doing the right thing puts shame on all of us. He said that 40 ordinary people from all walks of life, from the color of their skin, to different religions, all came together at one time to do the right thing and they saved lives. He said that if you can have a make-up of people like that in a situation like they had, who can put away all their differences for one cause, that is sacrifice. It is not about family members, anyone here, anyone in Somerset, but it is about 40 heroes, not one, two or three. We need to refocus. This memorial will be built.

Esther Landis

Ms. Landis read a letter written to the Families of Flight 93. She stated that she was a Salvation Army volunteer for a week. She had written a few letters to the local paper's editorial section and found that many people in the local community are in agreement with her. She said they find the millions of dollars that are being spent on this controversial memorial are not justified. She suggests that instead this money for the memorial is put into a fund called the Families of Flight 93 Memorial Fund to help returning military service personnel. She further stated that the temporary memorial was built by the people in respect, love and honor for the sacrifice these passengers and crew gave. She believes this temporary memorial means so much more than the fancy one that is planned because people put their heart, tears, blood and prayers into it. It is not the cost that counts, but the thought.

Diane Gramley

Ms. Gramley stated that she is here as President of the American Families of Pennsylvania state-wide Family Group and as a mother. She began with recounting her recollection of what she and her family were doing on September 11th, 2001. She also recollected the events that occurred that day in New York City, Washington DC and in Somerset County. She stated that she recently visited the temporary memorial three weeks ago, to take pictures of the memorial before it was to be moved across the street, to its new temporary location. She made a point to look at the land forms and see if she could see a bowl or any significant contours in the landscape, causing the crescent shaped design. She determined that she could not see any, and the use of the word crescent in the memorial design is very frightening and disturbing. She further referenced to an article from the Johnstown, PA newspaper in which they say that the crescent moon and star is an internationally known Islamic symbol. She feels that any reference to a crescent should be removed from the design.

Tom Burnett

Mr. Burnett introduced himself and announced that his son Tom Burnett was the one to lead the effort to take the plane back. He stated that he seen the red crescent of embrace, and finds it an obvious and blatant Islamic symbol. He said he voiced his concern because it does not properly honor the heroes. He wants this to be investigated and said he has constantly been dismissed. He

stated he will continue to fight this and is suggesting that everyone get together; the National Park Service and the people who think this is the right memorial, and ask for an unbiased, transparent, honest investigation. He said he is even willing to be investigated and that it should not be one sided. He does not agree with the National Park Service, and further went on to state to every American that is watching the news, that this must be stopped. He is asking for America's support in his effort, because he felt he has been squelched. He said everyone is tired and fed up with it, but they must honor these people properly. He thanked everyone for the time he was given to speak, and asked everyone wake up and to get their heads out of the sand.

Martha Burnett

Ms. Burnett thanked the Ambassadors for all of their dedication and hard work at making the temporary memorial beautiful. She also added that she does not distrust Joanne, or her sincerity and patriotism. She understands everyone's hard work in this project and feels that Joanne has acted honorably. She then read a statement from her mother. Summarizing, her mother said she was proud of her husband Tom Burnett, saying that it takes a lot of courage to stand up and oppose the National Park Service and our government. Tom Sr. was the first person to stand up against the design. He spoke to the media in 2005 against the design. He wanted to make sure the memorial properly honors his son and all of the passengers and crew of Flight 93 and that it should never honor Islamic terrorists. She read that her mother has been on and stayed with the Flight 93 Family Board since 2003, wishing to secure the crash site and bury all the remains; she said she has not accomplished any of these. She feels that they have failed their loved ones by not making this the cemetery it should be for these first citizen soldiers on the war on terrorism. Like his son, Tom Sr. is also showing leadership by doing something and his son would be very proud of him.

Ginny Barnett

Ms. Barnett introduced herself as a volunteer at both the Shanksville and New York City sites post 9/11 and is currently a volunteer with the Flight 93 National Memorial. She believes that this national memorial is first and foremost about those that were lost that day; to remember them, to honor them, and to draw hope from their actions and lives. Those who speak against the memorial design, state the same goal; to remember and honor the heroes, and not the terrorists. She stated that this is a shared common goal. She further stated that the people who oppose the design, only accomplished what they are adamantly against; drawing attention away from the heroes and instead put the attention completely on those who caused this terrible tragedy. She respectfully asked these people to consider this before continuing their divisive efforts.

Bill Steiner

Mr. Steiner decided not to speak.

Will Hollier

Mr. Hollier advised for the record that he is a consultant to the Families of Flight 93 to help them on federal legislative and appropriations, but is speaking today strictly from his heart and on a personal nature. On September 11th, he was Chief of Staff to United States Senator Mike Crapo from Idaho, whose office was located next to the Capitol. He stated that everyone in his line of work has a television on their desk to keep up with current events. On September 11, 2001, after the second plane hit the World Trade Center, he gathered his 35 employees together and

immediately called the Capitol Hill police, who instructed them not to evacuate. He then decided to evacuate his staff after he heard the Pentagon was hit, and at that time, the Capitol Hill police evacuated everyone when they heard about a fourth plane. By the time he and his staff reached his Capitol Hill home, they heard about the heroic efforts of the passengers and crew of Flight 93. He added that he has been talking with the Families, Senators, the supporters, and that the Flight 93 project has been a very open process, and a lot of time and effort has been put in by everyone. He continued by saying that the distractions that are raised about this project only slows down building the memorial by the 10th anniversary for the Family members, but also Americans who wish to mourn and honor these people.

Alec Rawls

Mr. Rawls stated that the original Crescent of Embrace design was laid out in a giant configuration of an Islamic crescent and star flag. The crash site is roughly in position of the star on an Islamic flag. He states that the giant crescent is pointing to Mecca. He stated that a person standing between the two tips of the crescent, and facing inside the crescent, would be within two degrees of Mecca. He stated that in April 2006, he was told by Superintendent Hanley why she was not concerned about the Mecca orientation of the crescent; he said she stated it was not exact in a conference call along with Project Manager, Jeff Reinbold. He feels that she knows about the Mecca orientation but that she is making excuses for it. He said he previously spoke with Professor Tim Baird who advised him that everyone (the Commissioners) is aware of the Mecca orientation, but feels it was unintentional. Mr. Rawls went on to say that the crescent is still there, although the architect, Paul Murdoch, and the National Park Service, calls it a broken circle. The only change that has been made was to add an additional arc of trees, described as a broken off part of a circle; broken off at both ends. He said that the flight path breaks the circle and turns it into a giant Islamic crescent that points to Mecca; a victory of al-Qaeda because a circle is a symbol of peace. He further stated that this giant Islamic crescent is not the only crescent in the design; there is one at the top of the Tower of Voices which towers above the symbolic lives of the 40 heroes. He ended by asking the Commissioners to speak to him after the meeting so that he can explain and show that he is not making things up, and that this is very real.

Tim Sumner

Mr. Sumner began by saying that while he is not a Flight 93 Family member, his wife's brother did die at the World Trade Center; he was a firefighter. He also stated that he was just at the Pentagon a couple of days ago, because he lost a dear friend who was soon to retire from the Army. He believes that for the past seven years, there has been a lot of anger because of September 11th. He feels that we should consider changing to whom that anger should be directed. He stated that the people who killed our family members were the enemy. He then read a short excerpt from Alec Rawl's web site which read: "What did we expect. We hosted an open design competition in time of war, and literally invited the entire world to enter. Can anyone really be surprised that our terror, war enemies accepted our invitation?" Mr. Sumner then stated that he believes this is not what the committee decided. He said Paul Murdoch and the design committee are not our enemies. We must also remember that red is also the color on our flag. That green is the primary color of Islam and would be a terrible color to take out of the crash site. That the word "crescent" is an English language word, and is our word, not theirs. He said that the ground at the Flight 93 National Memorial is our ground, the same as it is at the

Pentagon and in New York. He also stated that one can draw a circle anywhere and have it lead to Mecca. He ended by saying that these are our heroes and that we should take back our memorials; there is no conspiracy.

Sharon Deitrich

Ms. Deitrich began by saying that what she will say is coming from her heart. She directed her words to Mr. Tom Burnett, telling him that she has the greatest respect to him and his family. She said of the thousands of presentations that she has done for children, she always spoke of his son, Tom Jr.; not only as a key person in orchestrating the attack on the terrorists, but also as a man of God. She continued saying that she has dedicated her life to helping the Families of Flight 93, and that this design is for the heroes of Flight 93 and that God would stop it if it wasn't.

Lei Hennessey-Owen

Ms. Hennessey began by saying that she mainly has problems with the locals. She questioned why some things are allowed to be at the temporary memorial, and some things are not. She stated she moved here from Montana as a concerned citizen, and was alarmed that shortly after her move; she had an angel sculpture that was "arrested". She has concerns about the local officials and still would like the answers to why she was treated that way, and others are not. She does not have a problem with the design.

R.E. Dillon

Mr. Dillon began by reminding everyone that he attended Valley Forge Military Academy, where he was Editor of the school's paper and that the motto of the Academy is *From Valley Forge came men who fought for America, and from Valley Forge come those who protect and defend*. He then told a story of a legend of George Washington, who had a nightmare so horrific towards the end of his life, that he hardly told anyone. He apparently had seen in his nightmare, a vast moment of destruction during this time in the nation's history. Thomas Jefferson fought the Barbary pirates and a famous Admiral defeated them and was thanked by the Pope. He further went on to say that we had a long period of time fighting with Islamo-fascists, or whatever you would like to call them. From Thomas Jefferson, to the turn of the 20th century in the Phillipines, to 100 years later- to now. He said this is not a new problem that the United States created, but a problem the Muslim world has with the rest of the world. He then thanked Superintendent Hanley, for taking the scientific approach to removing the red maple trees from the plan because of environmental reasons and botanical evidence. Just as Superintendent Hanley is using botanical evidence, Mr. Rawls is using forensic evidence with the problem of the minaret or the Tower of Voices. He concluded with quoting passages written in a book about our countries architecture, written by an American/British scholar; mainly about how the buildings in Washington DC were built in accordance with constellational and astrological factors. He stated that architects are brilliant people who do not think emotionally, but rather architect Paul Murdoch is bringing forth his genius. By understanding the architect of the buildings in Washington, one can see how Paul Murdoch was thinking.

David Owen

Not present

Paul Ritchey

Mr. Ritchey mentioned that several weeks ago, he spoke to Superintendent Hanley about the picture of the four terrorists that are shown from a book at the crash site. He stated that his wife grew up in a Muslim country and she knows the significance of that. Her father was high up in the State Department and got to know Muslims very well. He wanted to thank Superintendent Hanley for just recently making the decision to remove the photographs of the four terrorists. In tears, he spoke about things happening in this country that are not brought to our attention, such as in Minneapolis, a Muslim taxi driver being exempt from having to pick up women without head coverings, or blind people with seeing-eye dogs (because of uncleanliness). He further went on to say that the Muslims are in the majority in Marseilles, France and that the city council and mayor are Muslim. He said that the laws that they pass in Marseilles, France make it almost impossible for a Christian to have a church service. Then while crying, he said, “and we think that this can’t happen in this country? I want you to be aware and be vigilant.” Lastly, still crying, he quoted the last verse of the National Anthem.

Patrick White

Mr. White began by saying that he is speaking today as a man who lost his cousin, who was very much like a brother, and that he would like to tell everyone what he feels. He said that since September 11, 2001, he has felt like there has been a hole inside of him. Many people may have felt that right after September 11th, but he, those of who have lost family members, and those close to them, still feel this hole. Shortly after he was asked and he asked how he can help, he has helped everyday in this process. When Mr. Burnett spoke, he said that he gave him the courtesy of listening. He said he is here as a citizen speaking, protected by the constitution, as are each of the individuals who spoke here today. He said that we are a nation of laws, not of men. When men’s opinions differ, they look to facts and truths to support their opinions. He went on to say that what we heard today were opinions. Many of the opinions expressed today were about the past. These were ideas raised years ago that have been addressed accurately as part of a process, while they were absent. He went on to say that he cannot imagine how he would feel if each day he woke up, rather than doing everything that he can to help, that he would instead do everything he can to stop, try to stop, or commit to trying to stop from what others who feel what they do each day is right; basing it solely on their personal opinions. He again said that we are a nation of laws, and that the laws have been followed and the process complete in this design. He strongly encouraged that everyone continue the process in preparation for the 10th anniversary with the chosen design.

David Beamer

Mr. Beamer introduced himself as the father of Todd Beamer and stated that he wanted to go on record in reference to all the conspiracy theories about the memorial design. He personally spoke with Paul Murdoch, and he feels that this design is appropriate and absolutely honors the heroes on Flight 93. He encourages everyone in joining him in supporting this design and making a little sacrifice to make it a reality. He has a letter written to encourage 1 million Americans to make a sacrifice so that we would have the necessary funds to build the memorial in all of the phases. He then spoke directly to Mr. Tom Burnett, his wife and daughter, that when their sons and 38 others were on that plane together on that fateful morning were united; today, these two fathers are not and it saddens him. He asked Mr. Burnett to look at the design again, to reevaluate it, and to accept the modifications that have been made and the explanations that have been given as

sufficient. He then turned to Mr. Rawls and said that he faults him for his obsessive behavior and that he finds his obsessions disruptive and hurtful. He also finds that his unwillingness to abandon his damaging and destructive position, in light of the facts, most unfortunate. He found his emails to be invasive and insensitive. He also stated that he found his allegations that anyone supporting the memorial design to be al-Qaeda sympathizers to be beyond offensive. Mr. Beamer than told Mr. Rawls that he hopes he finds his life a positive outlook for his obsessive behavior and to move on. He said for us not to be able to build this memorial in 10 years time, compared to their loved ones who did what they had to do in less than an hour is unfortunately unbelievable.

Christine Fraser

Ms. Fraser began by saying she was terribly sorry that there are people here that believe in the controversies. She said that she is frustrated when people come here to speak, but they are not having a conversation. She stated that having the pictures of the terrorists removed from the book at the site was ridiculous, because what will they do, pretend these people didn't do this? She understands that people may not want to see their pictures, but we cannot pretend they didn't exist, and are not in that same field as their loved ones. She mentioned that we can see conspiracy in things if we look hard enough. She went on to say she is very upset that people dare to think that they would want to build a memorial to people who hated us and killed us. This kind of hate only keeps rolling like a snowball, and that if we do not learn from 9/11, we are doomed to repeat it. She said these are all opinions being said today, and nobody will change their mind. The memorial that will be built will be beautiful.

VI. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned by Chairman Reynolds, who ended the meeting by explaining how much time and effort is put in by the Federal Advisory Commission and Task Force, with their countless meetings and decision making sessions.