

MINUTES
ADVISORY COMMITTEE
ON ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY
REMEMBER SUBCOMMITTEE
14 October 2015
ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, ARLINGTON, VA

1. Summary. The subcommittee was presented with an update on the status of monument requests and the six current requests in the queue during this open meeting. After this presentation, a productive discussion on the request process and specifically the 8th Armored Division Association's request allowed the subcommittee members to express their questions and discuss overall impressions and concerns. Also present were Ms. Renea Yates, Designated Federal Officer (DFO) for the Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery (Committee), Colonel Joseph Simonelli, Lieutenant Colonel Samuel Chisolm and Lieutenant Colonel Kevin Johnson.

2. Attendees.

a. Honor Subcommittee. Mr. Russell Davis, Subcommittee Chair, Mr. Chet Edwards, Mr. Thomas Kelley, Mr. Mark Farley, Mr. Bob Hess, Mr. Ron Fetherson, Ms. Rose Duval and Mr. James Peake attended. A quorum was present for the meeting.

b. Arlington National Cemetery. Ms. Renea Yates, COL Joseph Simonelli, LTC Samuel Chisolm and LTC Kevin Johnson attended the entire brief and discussions.

3. Discussion.

a. The open meeting for the Remember Subcommittee was called to order at 0910 hours.

b. The subcommittee chair, Mr. Russell Davis opened the meeting reflecting on the his observations that requests for interments appear to be rising at ANC, even though wait times are still rather lengthy, families are willing to wait as the experience means a lot to them. LTC Chisolm presented the list of monument requests and outlined where each request is in the process. He explained his role in educating those who seek to request a monument by communicating and providing a copy of the standard operating procedure for a request.

c. COL Simonelli further explained the request process and the role the ANC working group plays in the process. The 8th Armored Division has made a request and will present at the full committee meeting on 15 October. He iterated the fact that the mission at ANC and the staff's focus every day is to conduct services for the Veteran and their Family, and when every group with a memorial plaque here wants to have an anniversary commemoration it adversely affects cemetery operations.

d. Mr. Peake brought up the idea that ANC should maybe offer other places the requesting group can turn to request a proper place for their monument. The Army Museum was mentioned as an alternative, as it may be within their charter to assist in placing monuments for organizations.

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e. COL Simonelli closed by asking if there were any questions and stated the recommendation of the ANC monument working group recommended denial of the 8th Armored Division Association request.

4. Due Outs. N/A

5. Conclusion. After all questions were answered and initial Subcommittee comments were provided, the subcommittee chair thanked all in attendance and the meeting was adjourned at 1000.

Certified by:



Lieutenant General,
USAF Retired Chair,
Remember Subcommittee
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery

RENEA C. YATES
Designated Federal Officer,
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery