

MINUTES

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY

HONOR SUBCOMMITTEE

TOMB OF REMEMBRANCE; MILLENNIUM/SOUTHERN EXPANSION UPDATE; MASTER PLAN UPDATE

CURRENT BURIAL ELIGIBILITY/HONORS

30 APRIL 2014

ARLINGTON NATIONAL CEMETERY, ARLINGTON, VA

1. Summary. Colonel Stewart briefed the Master Plan and updated on all renovations and expansions. Ms. Yates briefed the eligibility criteria and burial honors.

2. Attendees.

a. **Honor Subcommittee.** Mr. Kelley, Mr. Edwards, Mr. Davis were present; Mrs. Fix and Mr. Peake participated via telephonically.

b. **Arlington National Cemetery.** Ms. Yates, Designated Federal Officer; Sergeant Major Curfman, Alternate Designated Federal Officer; Colonel Stewart, Chief of Staff.

3. Discussion.

a. The open meeting for the Honor Subcommittee was called to order and Mr. Davis opened as the Chairperson for the meeting. Mr. Peake joined via telephone at 2:40pm and assumed his role as Chairperson.

b. Colonel Stewart briefed:

1) The Master Plan

-SAHNC MP – no significant impact

- ANC MP – On going negotiations with Arlington County; Submission to NCPC and CFA will occur this Fall

- NCPC will validate the FNSI January 2015

2) Welcome Center Renovation

-Project Design completed

-Contract Award currently scheduled for June/July

-One year period of performance

-Temporary Facilities

3) Millennium Expansion

- Contract Awarded

- Initial work is underway and project is scheduled for substantial completion Summer 2016; Columbaria Fall 2016; in-ground burial Summer 2019

4) Southern Expansion

- Ongoing coordination; Phase I construction as early as 2017

5) Tomb of Remembrance

- Planning charrette conducted

- Only supported location is Section 70

Mr. Edwards asked about the broad parameters of the Master Plan and if there were any major changes from their original brief approximately one year ago. COL Stewart explained that the MP is a living plan for the next five years for all known construction at ANC. Mr. Edwards also wanted to know if the committee has seen this renovation plan of which COL Stewart related she has provided this to them at the last update. Ms. Yates described in detail what the Tomb of Remembrance is. Mr. Edwards asked what the size of this would be and he was informed approximately the size of two graves. Mr. Davis asked what happens if we need to expand it and he was informed it could last 200 years.

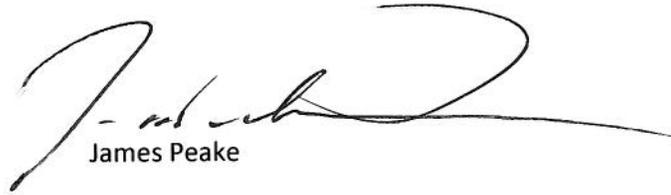
b. Ms. Yates briefed the concept of QR Codes and the possibility of relooking the eligibility for burial and military honors. Ms. Yates then shared with the committee the current eligibility requirements and ANC burial trends.

b. Ms Yates began discussion with topic of burial and military honors. Discussed eligibility for burials and re-emphasized the frequency of these burials during the week. Current burials are scheduled within a 2 weeks for casketed remains and within 8 weeks for cremated remains. The actual service occurs within 6 months based upon the availability of military honors.

Mr. Edwards asked to go back and go over eligibility requirements to be buried in ANC. Ms. Fix asked if there was any priority when funerals are scheduled as far as an active duty person vise a retiree. Priority is to those Killed In Action. Ms. Fix also asked about congressional pressure. Mr. Kelley asked if civilian priest or ministers are allowed to conduct services here and was informed yes, that is possible. Ms. Yates briefed ANC Burial Trends for 2013-2014. Mr. Davis had several questions about ground/niche burials. Ms. Fix asked if there is a way to gather statistics/trends on this data for requirements from an independent working group. Mr. Edwards asked if the fundamental question is can ANC reduce the number of Full Honor burials and this be acceptable to the American public. Mr. Kelley asked for a one page eligibility document for next week. Mr. Davis asked if we were granting any waivers to people who do not meet the basic criteria. Mr. Edwards stated the process of figuring this out will be as important as

the decision so as to not create animosity between officers and enlisted. Mr. Peake re-emphasized the comments of Mr. Edwards.

4. Mr. Peake motioned to adjourn at 1549.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Peake', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

James Peake

Subcommittee Chair
Honor Subcommittee
Advisory Committee on Arlington National Cemetery