THE FORT ORD VETERAN’S
CEMETERY CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Thursday, March 10, 2011
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM
Marina Library Community Meeting Room
190 Seaside Circle, Marina

I. Welcome
James Bogan, Chair called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Roll Call:
Present – Ralph Villar (District 1), Frank Aguillon (District 2), Leonard Ortiz (District 3), James Bogan (District 4), Jack Stewart (United Veterans Council) Ex officio – Stephen Jorgensen (California Department of Veterans Affairs), Clark Larson, (City of Seaside), Edith Johnsen (Veterans’ Families), Tom Mancini (Ft. Ord Reuse Authority), Bruce Evans (Ft. Ord Retiree Council), Julian Chacon (representing Representative Sam Farr), Nicole Charles (representing Assembly Member Bill Monning).

Absent – Juan Sanchez (Military & Veterans Affairs Advisory Commission), Janet Parks (Central Coast Veterans Cemetery Foundation), David Meyerson (representing 15th Senate District Senator Blakesley), Bill Nye (District 5), Abel Quinones (United Veterans Council).

II. Public Comment:
VFW Nisei representative Jim Suzuki, on behalf of its members, presented the CAC with a $3000. check which Chair Bogan immediately turned over to the Foundation.

III. Approval of February 10, 2011 Minutes:
Stewart/Aguillon

IV. Federal Regulations Update: Julian Chacon
Sam Farr recently met with VA Secretary Eric Shinseki and secured the commitment that once the State application for the cemetery was received by the VA, it would receive priority from the federal level. The entire CAC wanted to thank Mr. Farr for his long term, unfailing and effective commitment and support for the cemetery.

V. State Legislation Update: Nicole Charles
No comments per se (see comments on Endowment Parcel below).

VI. Endowment Parcel Update: Jim Cook/Clark Larson
Mr. Cook & Mr. Jorgensen commented on their trip to Sacramento to meet with legislators:
a. Very successful – discussions included realistic costs of Development, Operation and Maintenance.
b. Met with Bill Monning who opened doors for them and was highly instrumental in garnering legislative support for the Cemetery.
c. Publicly lauded Mr. Monning for his support, assistance and foresight in preparing the way for the Cemetery to move forward in Sacramento as well as his position that the endowment parcel is still critical and the CAC must keep its eye on that ball. The entire CAC thanked Mr. Monning for not giving up on the Cemetery, even after it was seemingly stopped.
d. It was made public that, Mr. Bogan, on behalf of the Foundation, had procured a $800,000. interest only loan from the Marina Coast Water District (MCMD) to send to the State to meet the obligation for that money to cause the State application to move forward and keep the CAC in the current State budget.

d. Mr. Bogan also announced that, as part & parcel of the MWMD’s loan, a letter had been sent to the attorneys of the MWMD & City of Seaside to work out the legalities of the loan process.

VII. FORA Grant Update: Jonathan Garcia
RHAA Consultants made a presentation showing design progress for the cemetery. The presentation showed an updated drawing of the cemetery as well as an updated projected timeline. The timeline (similar to a PERT Chart) presented key implementation actions and showed a potential opening date for the cemetery of November 2014, Veterans’ Day.

The entire CAC agreed to thank RHAA for this professional presentation and work and unanimously stated that the RHAA presentation added considerably to making the cemetery a reality.

IX. Report from CCVC Foundation: Janet Parks/Candace Ingram: NONE

X. Fundraising Subcommittee Update: Edith Johnsen

XI. Golf Tournament will be at Blackhorse on November 12, 2011

XII. Meeting adjourned at 2:15 pm. Next meeting April 14, 2011

Respectfully submitted by Thomas H. Griffin, Secretary, ex officio.