



## ***TWO-DAY “DESIGN CHARENTE” BRINGS IDEAS, SOLUTIONS TO MEMORIAL PROJECT***

An unprecedented design charrette between victim’s families and Pentagon Memorial design team members resulted in substantive discussions about project priorities and constraints. The three-day “design charrette” was envisioned as a collaborative planning process to ensure that everyone involved shared an understanding of the project and the roles and contributions of the various participants.

Hosted by the selected contractor team, Centex-Lee, the charrette was attended by about 64 participants, including family members, representatives from the Washington Headquarter Services (WHS), employees of the Pentagon Renovation and Construction Program Office (PENREN/C) and Defense Facilities Division (DFD).

The charette’s first day featured short presentations from concept designers Julie Beckman and Keith Kaseman, Centex-Lee and the victim’s families. Each stakeholder explained their roles and perspectives on the project, giving those attending greater insight into the memorial design concept. Jim Laychak, president of the Pentagon Memorial Fund, Inc., and a surviving family member, outlined the progress of the fund-raising effort.

The second day’s discussions focused on the major design elements of the memorial such as the individual memorial units, perimeter benches, stabilized gravel, the project’s age-lines and trees. Also discussed were the requirements for lighting the pool system, related utility piping and drainage.

“I was impressed by the talent of the group, and especially with their constructive approach to everything,” Laychak said. “Whether the discussion was about concerns raised by family members the first day, or a design detail analyzed in the last two days, everyone responded by devising solutions. There was a lot of enthusiasm and energy, which was great to experience.”