

The Massachusetts 9/11 Fund



December 30, 2009

From John Curtis, President of the Board of Directors:

Dear Family Members,

Recently the Board has devoted a significant amount of attention to review and reconfirm our primary mission. These efforts have been led by Jim Fisher (Chairman of the Strategic Planning Committee), plus committee members Faith Arter, Peg Ogonowski, David Hastings and Diane Nealon. Through their efforts we have concluded that accomplishing our primary mission of ensuring that those lost on September 11, 2001 will not be forgotten includes managing and funding the following:

1. Maintenance and care of the Contemplative Garden Memorial in the Boston Public Garden,
2. Continued funding of the annual commemoration, including re-evaluation of the scope of commemorations after 2011, and
3. Other means to ensure those lost on September 11, 2001 will not be forgotten.

By the end of 2009 we will have transferred \$250,000 to the City of Boston Trust Fund for Parks and Recreation. These funds will be dedicated to the long-term care and maintenance of the Memorial. We have commissioned a study prepared by the engineering firm that designed the memorial to define the specific tasks, materials and costs of long term maintenance and care of the memorial. During 2010 we will continue to monitor actual costs of this maintenance, potential future inflation, plus the expected investment returns of the Trust Fund to determine if additional funding for the Trust will be required.

The strategic planning committee is evaluating options for commemorations commencing after 2011. The cost to the Fund for the 2009 commemoration was approximately \$50,000, excluding staff and volunteer time. Currently the plans under consideration would be to observe “lower key” commemorations except during “milestone” years including 2016, 2021, etc. The committee will continue to evaluate options to sponsor the most effective and inclusive events that will ensure that we continue to remember those lost on September 11, 2001. Our goal is to determine the estimated costs of these events, enabling us to establish a fund to pay for future commemorations.

Finally the Board is evaluating additional programs to remember those lost on September 11, 2001. Initially we plan to investigate the costs and benefits of developing an “Educational Program” that can be delivered to wider audiences.

We are always pleased to hear from family members, and welcome your comments and suggestions on all of the strategic planning topics.

Best wishes to all for a happy and prosperous New Year.

*The Board of Directors
Massachusetts 9/11 Fund, Inc.*