



CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
801 9TH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20220

Minutes of CCAC Public Meeting (Videoconference)
Tuesday, September 24, 2024
1:00 p.m.-2:22 p.m.

I. Attendance

a. Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee (CCAC) Members in Attendance:

- Dr. Peter van Alfen (Chair)
- Arthur Bernstein
- Dr. Christopher Capozzola
- Donald Scarinci
- Michael Moran
- Sam Gelberd
- Kellen Hoard
- Jeanne Stevens-Sollman
- Dr. Harcourt Fuller

* *Annelisa Purdie* and *John Saunders* did not attend

b. United States Mint Officers and Staff in Attendance:

- April Stafford, Chief, Office of Design Management
- Megan Sullivan, Senior Design Specialist, Office of Design Management
- Roger Vasquez, Senior Design Specialist, Office of Design Management
- Boneza Hanchock, Design Manager, Office of Design Management
- Sukrita Baijal, Design Manager, Office of Design Management
- Joseph Menna, Chief Engraver, U.S. Mint
- Michael Costello, Manager, Design and Engraving
- Jennifer Warren, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs and Liaison to the CCAC
- Greg Weinman, Deputy Chief Counsel and Counsel to the CCAC
- Brendan Tate, Senior Government Affairs Specialist, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs

c. Members of the Media in Attendance:

- Mike Unser, Founder and Editor of Coin News
- Paul Gilkes, Coin World Senior Editor



II. Minutes

a. Business Matters:

1. Chairperson van Alfen called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m. Chairperson van Alfen conducted roll call and determined that quorum was met. Attendance of media and Mint staff were recognized.
2. Art Bernstein made a motion to approve the minutes and letter to the Secretary from the July 15, 2024 and July 16, 2024 Public Meeting. Dr. Harcourt Fuller seconded the motion and it was passed by voice vote.
3. Chairperson van Alfen made a few introductory comments regarding the Lower Brule Sioux Code Talker Program and the Comic Art Program that the CCAC would be reviewing and pointed out that initially the Federal Register Noticed announced that the CCAC would also be reviewing the Emmett Till and Mamie-Till-Mobley Congressional Gold Medal portfolio. He stated that it would be reviewed at a later date.
4. Chairperson van Alfen also pointed out that due to the nature of the size of the portfolios today that scoring would not be taking place.

b. Lower Brule Sioux Code Talkers Congressional Gold Medal

1. Chairperson van Alfen introduced the first portfolio to be reviewed for the Lower Brule Sioux Code Talkers Congressional Gold Medal. *Public Law 110-420, Code Talkers Recognition Act of 2008* authorized the issuance of Congressional Gold Medals to recognize the dedication and valor of Native American code talkers. Under this law, 31 medals have been so far awarded honoring Native American code talker tribes. The Navajo Nation was separately awarded a Congressional Gold Medal.
2. April Stafford, Chief of the Office of Design Management, provided background on the program and specifically the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe portfolio. She also mentioned that the CFA reviewed and felt that the obverse and reverse fonts were not the same and they should both have the obverse font for consistency.
3. The CCAC was joined by Cody Russell, Vice Chairman of the Lower Brule Sioux Tribe, and Dr. William Meadows, Professor of Anthropology and Native American Studies in the Department of Sociology, Anthropology and Gerontology at Missouri State University who served as liaison and experts.
4. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations. Discussion took place regarding the font, the delimiter placement, the number of soldiers depicted, and portion of the tribal seal on the obverse design.
5. Chairperson van Alfen then invited each CCAC member to provide comments regarding the one obverse and one reverse candidate design for the program.
6. Sam Gelberd made a motion the font of the reverse should be used for the obverse and reverse. His thoughts were that the obverse font was too similar to what is often used on



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circulating coins and felt should be distinctive since this is a medal. The motion was seconded by Art Bernstein.

7. A friendly amendment was offered by Art Bernstein which was accepted that the delimiter be moved up slightly in its placement.
8. Discussion took place and Kellen Hoard indicated his preference for the obverse font. A voice vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.
9. The CCAC did hear from Cody Russell on his experience working on the medal. Dr. Meadows also spoke on the importance of keeping the tribal seal on the obverse.

c. Superman 2025 Comic Art Coin and Medals

1. Chairperson van Alfen then introduced the last portfolio today for the Superman 2025 Comic Art Coin and Medals. This is the first in the series that will begin in 2025 that will include gold coins and silver and clad medals that celebrate comic art as a uniquely American art form.
2. April Stafford provided background overall program and specifically the first portfolio that is being reviewed which is of Superman.
3. The CCAC was joined by Preston Kevin Lewis, Head of Consumer Products and Retail Strategy for the Americas, Warner Brothers Discovery who served as a liaison on the program.
4. Chairperson van Alfen called on Dr. Chris Capozzola who had shared some thoughts on the overall program earlier with fellow members and asked him to read his comments. The comments indicated several concerns with the program, including (1) a risk the Mint might find itself participating in the branding and marketing competition between rival companies; (2) where the Mint thinks the boundaries of future partnerships with for-profit entities might lie; and (3) whether the Mint creative staff was constrained in their artistic practice in the development of the Superman portfolio. Kirk Gillis, Acting Associate Director of Sales and Marketing, spoke on each of the three points, as did Greg Weinman, Deputy Chief Counsel. Dr. Capozzola appreciated their responses and their willingness to ensure these concerns were included as part of the public record.
5. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.
6. Chairperson van Alfen then invited each member of the CCAC to provide comments on the one obverse and one reverse candidate designs of the medals and coin.



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7. Following the discussion, Art Bernstein recommended approval of the obverse and reverse candidate designs. Dr. Fuller seconded the motion and it passed by voice vote.

8. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion to adjourn at 2:22pm. Art Bernstein motioned to adjourn and Dr. Fuller seconded the motion and it passed by voice vote. Chairperson van Alfen mentioned the next meeting will be in Washington, DC and will be October 15 and 16, 2024. The meeting will be announced in the Federal Register.