



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

Minutes of CCAC Public Meeting (Videoconference)
Tuesday, October 15, 2024
9:01 a.m.-4:57 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 (virtual)
- Jeanne Stevens-Sollman
- Dr. Harcourt Fuller*

* *Dr. Harcourt Fuller* did not attend

b. United States Mint Officers and Staff in Attendance:

- Kristie McNally, Deputy Director
- 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
- Russ Evans, Design Manager, 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 (virtual):

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

d. Stakeholders in Attendance:



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- Richard Hunt, Director of the Center for Legislative Archives, National Archives and Records Administration (virtual)
- Ken Morris, Great-great-great Grandson of Frederick Douglass (virtual)
- Mary Elliott, Curator, National Museum of African American History and Culture (virtual)
- Jennifer Herrera, Vice President, External Affairs, National Women’s History Museum (virtual)
- Allida Black, Managing Director, Allenswood Group LLC (virtual)
- Angela Tate, Museum of African American History, Boston (virtual)
- Ruby Bridges, Ruby Bridges Foundation (virtual)
- Lance Volland, Ruby Bridges Foundation (virtual)

II. Minutes

a. Business Matters:

1. Chairperson van Alfen called the meeting to order at approximately 9:01am. Chairperson van Alfen conducted roll call and determined that quorum was met. Attendance of media and Mint staff were recognized.
2. Arthur Bernstein made a motion to approve the minutes and letter to the Secretary from the September 24, 2024 Public Meeting. Christopher Capozzola seconded the motion and it was passed by voice vote.

b. Public Service Award to Dennis Tucker

1. Chairperson van Alfen remarked on Mr. Tucker’s service on the CCAC and his camaraderie and friendship with members of the Committee.
2. Deputy Director McNally remarked on Mr. Tucker’s service on the CCAC and presented him with the framed Public Service Award.
3. Mr. Tucker then remarked on his service and time on the CCAC.

c. 2026-2028 Platinum Proof Coins

1. Chairperson van Alfen made introductory comments regarding the Semiquincentennial program being considered over the two days of the meeting.
2. Chairperson van Alfen introduced the first portfolio to be reviewed in the meeting, that for the obverse candidate designs for 2026–2028 Platinum Proof Coins.
3. April Stafford, Chief of the Office of Design Management, provided background on the American Eagle Platinum Proof program and the 2026–2028 Charters of Freedom series in the program. In each of the three years, the obverse will feature one of the three essential documents of our nation’s founding—the Declaration of Independence, the U.S.



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Constitution, and the Bill of Rights—while the reverse will be the common reverse design used in the series since 2018. Ms. Stafford noted that three artists each created a set of three obverse designs for each of the three years for the portfolio. She also noted the presence of the stakeholders Richard Hunt and Lee Ann Potter.

4. Chairperson van Alfen noted that while this program was not directly part of the Semiquincentennial program, there were overlapping themes in both the Platinum and Semiquincentennial programs, therefore the need to review the Platinum Proof portfolios in conjunction with two other portfolios from the Semiquincentennial program
 5. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and stakeholders were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations. Discussion took place regarding whether the CCAC was being asked to make recommendations for all three years of the program (2026, 2027, and 2028) or just 2026, and whether the similar designs appearing in the Platinum Proof coin portfolios and the Semiquincentennial quarters portfolios could be recommended for coins appearing simultaneously.
 6. Chairperson van Alfen then invited each CCAC member to provide comments regarding the obverse candidate designs in each of the three sets for the program.
 7. Following each members' comments, Ms. Stafford noted that the CCAC was being asked in this meeting to recommend, if possible, one of the sets to move forward and, if not, then for a recommendation for the 2026 coin only.
 8. There followed a general discussion about scoring and voting procedures on the portfolio and about design elements in some of the candidate designs.
 9. Chairperson van Alfen invited Richard Hunt and Lee Ann Potter to offer comments.
 10. Richard Hunt noted his appreciation for the CCAC members' individual comments on the portfolio.
 11. The CCAC then scored the obverse candidate designs.
- d. 2026 Semiquincentennial Quarter #1-Declaration of Independence
1. Following a short break, Chairperson van Alfen introduced the first portfolio to be reviewed for the Semiquincentennial program in the meeting, that for the Declaration of Independence quarter.
 2. April Stafford, Chief of the Office of Design Management, provided background on the five Semiquincentennial quarters, noting that each reflects an important inflection point in the nation's history: the Declaration of Independence, the crafting of the U.S. Constitution, the abolition of slavery, women's suffrage, and civil rights. She then



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reviewed the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the Declaration of Independence quarter portfolio.

4. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations. Discussion took place regarding differences in the Semiquincentennial program portfolios presented to the CCAC in the July 2024 meeting and the present meeting.
 5. Chairperson van Alfen then invited each CCAC member to provide comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio.
 6. Following each member's comments, Chairperson van Alfen again invited Richard Hunt to offer comments, who again noted his appreciation for the members' comments.
 7. The CCAC then scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs.
- e. 2026 Semiquincentennial Quarter #2-U.S. Constitution
1. Following a short break, Chairperson van Alfen introduced the next portfolio to be reviewed for the Semiquincentennial program, that for the U.S. Constitution quarter.
 2. April Stafford provided background on the U.S. Constitution quarter, and then reviewed the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio.
 3. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.
 4. Chairperson van Alfen then invited each CCAC member to provide comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio.
 5. Following each member's comments, Chairperson van Alfen again invited Richard Hunt to offer comments, who noted a potential confusion in the dates appearing on the coin as the U.S. Constitution was not enacted until 1789, not 1776.
 6. The CCAC then scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs. The CCAC recessed for lunch at 11:50 a.m.
- f. Discussion of Platinum Proof, Quarter #1 and Quarter #2
1. Calling the meeting back to order at 12:45 p.m., Chairperson van Alfen asked CCAC Counsel Greg Weinman to relate the scores for the 2026–2028 Platinum Proof Coin series, the Declaration of Independence quarter, and the U.S. Constitution quarter.



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2. For the Platinum Proof coins, obverse candidate designs PTP-01-D-01A, PTP-01-C-01, PTP-03-D-01, and PTP-03-C-01 all tied for the highest score (22/30).
 3. For the Declaration of Independence quarter obverse candidate design DQ-O-02 received the highest score (22/30), while reverse candidate design DQ-R-10 received the highest score (20/30).
 4. For the U.S. Constitution quarter obverse candidate design CQ-O-02 received the highest score (23/30), while reverse candidate designs CQ-R-07 and CQ-R-09 tied for the highest score (18/30).
 5. Chairperson van Alfen opened the floor for discussion of the Platinum Proof series.
 6. General discussion then followed on the merits of Set 01 and Set 03, candidate designs from each of which were tied in the scoring, and on design elements of individual candidate obverse designs, which also included comments from Chief Engraver Joseph Menna.
 7. Michael Moran made a motion, seconded by Jeanne Stevens-Sollman, to recommend obverse candidate design PTP-01-D-01A for the 2026 coin, and that the additional obverse designs from Set 01 be noted as the preferences of the CCAC for the 2027 and 2028 coins subject to future review and possible modification.
 8. Following a brief discussion, the motion passed by unanimous voice vote.
 9. Chairperson van Alfen opened the floor for discussion of the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution quarters, reminding members to abstain from making motions for recommendations until the following day when all of the Semiquincentennial portfolios would be considered in unison.
 10. There followed a robust discussion of the candidate designs, particularly of the various depictions of the personified Liberty appearing on the obverse designs, and of the merits of the various reverse designs.
- g. 2026 Semiquincentennial Quarter #3-Abolitionism
1. Chairperson van Alfen introduced the next portfolio to be reviewed for the Semiquincentennial program, that for the abolitionism quarter.
 2. April Stafford provided background on the remaining three “inflection point” quarters of the program (abolitionism, women’s suffrage, and civil rights), and then reviewed the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the abolitionism portfolio.
 3. Ms. Stafford invited the stakeholders Ken Morris and Mary Elliot to speak, both of whom indicated their pleasure in attending the meeting and with the portfolio.



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4. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.
 5. Brief discussion ensued about technical details in two of the designs noted by Arthur Bernstein.
 6. Chairperson van Alfen invited each CCAC member to provide comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio.
 7. Following each member's comments, Chairperson van Alfen invited Mr. Morris and Ms. Elliot to address the CCAC, and asked Ms. Elliot to address the question raised by Arthur Bernstein in his review of the portfolio about the choice of the word "abolitionism" rather than "abolition".
 8. Ms. Elliot remarked that for her the word "abolitionism" represented both a system of beliefs associated with ending slavery and the movement to do so, thus her preference for that word. She also offered comments on a number of the candidate designs.
 9. Mr. Morris offered comments on the candidate designs and how they reflected various aspects of Frederick Douglas's life.
 10. The CCAC scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs with obverse candidate design AQ-O-01 received the highest score (26/30) and reverse candidate design AQ-R-01 receiving the highest score (21/30).
 11. There followed a brief discussion about whether or not to recommend the name "Frederick Douglas" be added to candidate design AQ-O-01.
 12. Chairperson then thanked Mr. Morris and Ms. Elliot for their attendance and comments.
- h. 2026 Semiquincentennial Quarter #4-Suffrage
1. Chairperson van Alfen introduced the next portfolio to be reviewed for the Semiquincentennial program, that for the women's suffrage quarter.
 2. April Stafford provided background on the women's suffrage quarter, and then reviewed the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio.
 3. Chairperson van Alfen invited the subject matter experts Jen Herrera, Allida Black, and Angela Tate to speak, all of whom indicated their pleasure in attending the meeting and with their work in helping to develop the portfolio.
 4. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.



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5. Brief discussion ensued about technical details in one of the designs noted by Arthur Bernstein.
 6. Chairperson van Alfen then invited each CCAC member to provide comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio.
 7. Following each member's comments, Chairperson van Alfen invited Ms. Tate, Ms. Herrera, and Dr. Black to offer comments on the candidate designs.
 8. Following their individual comments, there was a brief discussion between members of the CCAC and Mint staff about aspects of the candidate designs.
 9. The CCAC scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs with obverse candidate design SQ-O-01B received the highest score (20/30) and reverse candidate design SQ-R-01 receiving the highest score (21/30).
 10. Dr. Black noted that the proper American term for a woman activist at the time was "suffragist", while "suffragette" was the term used in the United Kingdom.
 11. Chairperson van Alfen thanked Ms. Tate, Ms. Herrera, and Dr. Black for their attendance and insightful comments.
- i. 2026 Semiquincentennial Quarter #5-Civil Rights
1. Chairperson van Alfen introduced the next portfolio to be reviewed for the Semiquincentennial program, that for the civil rights quarter.
 2. April Stafford provided background on the civil rights quarter, and then reviewed the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio.
 3. Chairperson van Alfen invited Ruby Bridges to speak to the committee, noting how honored the CCAC felt to have her attending. Ms. Bridges remarked how humbling it was for her to be part of the project.
 4. Chairperson also invited Lance Volland and Mary Elliot to address the committee.
 5. Following their remarks, the CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.
 6. Chairperson van Alfen invited each CCAC member to provide comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs in the portfolio. Several of the comments touched on the ramifications of portraying a living individual on a circulating coin, but underscored how the portrayal of Ruby Bridges as a six-year-old school girl is iconic of the Civil Rights movement.



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7. Following each member's comments, Chairperson van Alfen invited Ms. Bridges to offer comments on the candidate designs. In her expansive and moving discourse, she discussed the events of November 1960, the subsequent negative impact of those events on her family, particularly her decorated Korean War veteran father, and her later work in trying to unite the people of the country.
8. Chairperson van Alfen invited Mary Elliott to comment on the portfolio designs, who offered extensive observations on the designs and their reflection of the Civil Rights movement.
9. April Stafford remarked briefly on design elements in CRQ-R-01 and CRQ-R-02 highlighted by Ms. Elliott.
10. The CCAC scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs with obverse candidate design CRQ-O-01 receiving the highest score (27/30) and reverse candidate design CRQ-R-02 receiving the highest score (22/30).
11. Chairperson van Alfen thanked Ms. Bridges, Ms. Elliott, and Mr. Volland for their attendance and comments.
12. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion to recess at 4:58pm.