



CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

801 9TH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20220

**Minutes of CCAC Public Meeting
Wednesday, October 16, 2024
8:30 am-2:23 pm**

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
- John Saunders
- Annelisa Purdie
- Dr. Harcourt Fuller*

* *Dr. Harcourt Fuller* 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
- Russ Evans, Design Manager, Office of Design Management
- Boneza Hancock, 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



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d. Stakeholders in Attendance (virtual):

- Lee Ann Potter, Director of Professional Learning and Outreach Initiatives, Library of Congress

II. Minutes

a. Business Matters:

1. Chairperson van Alfen called the meeting to order at approximately 8:30 a.m. Chairperson van Alfen conducted roll call and determined that quorum was met. Attendance of media and Mint staff were recognized.

b. 2026 Semiquincentennial Dime

1. Chairperson van Alfen introduced the next portfolio to be reviewed for the Semiquincentennial program, that for the dime.
2. April Stafford provided background on the Semiquincentennial dime, noting that the theme for the 2026 dime is Liberty over Tyranny, and that along with the half dollar, the dime will bookend the five semiquincentennial quarters by making further connections to the aspirations and ideals expressed in the nation's founding. She 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 their individual comments, there was a brief discussion between members of the CCAC and Mint staff about aspects of the candidate designs.
6. Chairperson van Alfen invited Lee Ann Potter to comment on the portfolio.
7. Brief discussion followed with Joseph Menna commenting on the coinability of the candidate designs.
8. The CCAC scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs.
9. Before relating the scores, there was discussion between the Mint staff and CCAC members about the post-2026 circulating coinage.
10. Greg Weinman related the scores for the 2026 dime, with obverse candidate design DIME-O-01A receiving the highest score (21/30) and reverse candidate design DIME-R-03A receiving the highest score (15/30).



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c. 2026 Semiquincentennial Half Dollar

1. Chairperson van Alfen introduced the next portfolio to be reviewed for the Semiquincentennial program, that for the half dollar.
2. April Stafford provided background on the Semiquincentennial half dollar, noting that the 2026 half dollar was conceived as the final of three acts in the program (the dime being the first, the quarters being the second) exploring what is required of citizens in a knowledge-based democracy to keep our Republic for the next 250 years. She 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. Chairperson van Alfen invited Lee Ann Potter to comment on the portfolio.
6. Brief discussion among CCAC members followed on the candidate designs.
7. The CCAC scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs, with obverse candidate design HALF-O-05 receiving the highest score (22/30) and reverse candidate design HALF-R-06 receiving the highest score (25/30).

d. Discussion of Semiquincentennial Circulating Coins

1. Chairperson van Alfen provided a review of the themes of the Semiquincentennial coinage developed by various committees, commissions, and subject matter experts, as well as an overview of the three acts represented in the dime, the five quarters and the half dollar. He encouraged CCAC members to keep these themes and acts in mind as the CCAC began to look at the portfolios in unison. He also encouraged members to abstain from making motions for recommendations until the comprehensive review of the portfolios had been completed.
2. Chairperson van Alfen then asked that the seven highest scoring obverse candidate designs, for the dime, the five quarters, and the half dollar, be displayed on the screen in unison and invited each CCAC member to provide comments on the designs as a set.
3. Following each members' comments, Chairperson van Alfen opened the floor for general discussion on the obverse candidate designs.
4. Chairperson van Alfen then asked that the seven highest scoring reverse candidate designs, for the dime, the five quarters, and the half dollar, be displayed on the screen in unison and invited each CCAC member to provide comments on the designs as a set.
5. Chairperson van Alfen called for a ten-minute break at 11:34 a.m.



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6. Resuming at 11:45 a.m., Chairperson van Alfen invited Greg Weinman to clarify for the listening public that the scoring system used by the CCAC was simply a tool to measure relative interest among CCAC members in the candidate designs.
 7. Chairperson van Alfen then asked that the seven highest scoring obverse and reverse candidate designs, for the dime, the five quarters, and the half dollar, be displayed on the screen in unison and opened the floor for general discussion on the entire selected set of candidate designs.
 8. Following the general discussion amongst CCAC members and with occasional comments from Mint staff, Chairperson van Alfen called for a recess for lunch at 12:33 p.m.
- e. Recommendations of Semiquincentennial Circulating Coins
1. Resuming at 1:30 p.m., Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion for recommendations for the 2026 dime.
 2. Following a brief discussion, Jeanne Stevens-Sollman made a motion, seconded by Christopher Capozzola, to recommend DIME-O-1 paired with DIME-R-03. The motion failed on a vote of raised hands, five for and five against.
 3. Michael Moran made a motion, seconded by Sam Gelberd, to recommend DIME-O-1A paired with DIME-R-01. The motion failed on a vote of raised hands, four in favor, five against, and one abstaining.
 4. Michael Moran made a motion, seconded by Arthur Bernstein, to have a show of hands to see those who favor DIME-O-03 versus DIME-O-01A. By show of hands six were in favor of DIME-O-03, four in favor of DIME-O-01A.
 5. Arthur Bernstein made a motion, seconded by Donald Scarinci, to recommend DIME-O-03 paired with DIME-R-3A. The motion carried on a vote of raised hands, six in favor, four opposed.
 6. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion for a recommendation for the Declaration of Independence quarter.
 7. John Saunders made a motion, seconded by Arthur Bernstein, to recommend DQ-O-02 paired with DQ-R-08. The motion carried on a vote of raised hands, seven in favor, three opposed.
 8. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion for a recommendation for the U.S. Constitution quarter.



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9. Christopher Capozzola made a motion, seconded by Jeanne Stevens-Sollman, to recommend CQ-O-02 paired with CQ-R-07. The motion failed on a vote of raised hands, three in favor, seven opposed.
10. Arthur Bernstein made a motion, seconded by Sam Gelberd, to recommend CQ-O-02 paired with CQ-R-09. The motion carried on a vote of raised hands, nine in favor, one abstaining.
11. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion for a recommendation for the Abolitionism quarter.
12. Arthur Bernstein made a motion, seconded by Kellen Hoard, to recommend AQ-O-01 paired with AQ-R-01, and to change the word “ABOLITIONISM” on the reverse candidate design to “ABOLITION”. The motion carried on a unanimous vote of raised hands.
13. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion for a recommendation for the women’s Suffrage quarter.
14. John Saunders made a motion, seconded by Arthur Bernstein, to recommend SQ-O-01B paired with SQ-R-04, and to change the wording on the reverse candidate design so that “VOTES FOR WOMEN” is not duplicated on both the obverse and reverse of the coin. The motion carried on a vote of raised hands, five in favor, three opposed, two abstaining.
15. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion for a recommendation for the Civil Rights quarter.
16. Donald Scarinci made a motion, seconded by Arthur Bernstein, to recommend CRQ-O-01 paired with CRQ-R-02. The motion carried on a unanimous vote of raised hands.
17. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion for a recommendation for the 2026 half dollar.
18. Donald Scarinci made a motion, seconded by Michael Moran, to recommend HALF-O-05 paired with HALF-R-05A. The motion carried on a vote of raised hands, seven in favor, three opposed.
19. Chairperson van Alfen asked if there were any further motions to make recommendations for modifications to the recommended obverse and reverse candidate designs.
20. Jeanne Stevens-Sollman made a motion, seconded by Michael Moran, that the Mint evaluate if the flight feathers of the eagle on DIME-R-03A need to be straightened to



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more accurately depict real eagle feathers. The motion carried on a vote of raised hands, nine in favor, one abstaining.

21. Christopher Capozzola made a motion, seconded by Arthur Bernstein, that Chairperson van Alfen convey in his letter of recommendations to the Secretary of the Treasury that the CCAC understands that the depiction of the Liberty Bell on DQ-R-08 serves as an iconic symbol of the Declaration of Independence and that the bell was not actually rung on or around July 4, 1776. Following a brief discussion, the motion carried unanimously by a vote of raised hands.
22. Following a discussion about the recommended U.S. Constitution quarter reverse design, John Saunders made a motion, seconded by Donald Scarinci, to elevate the wording "U.S. CONSTITUTION" on CQ-R-09 to the position occupied by the word "LIBERTY", and to place the word "LIBERTY" in the position occupied by "U.S. CONSTITUTION". The motion carried by a vote of raised hands, nine in favor, one abstaining.
23. Following a discussion between CCAC members and Mint staff, Doanld Scarinci made a motion, seconded by John Saunders, to ask the Mint work in conjunction with stakeholders and subject matter specialists to replace the words "VOTES FOR WOMEN" on the recommended reverse with an appropriate phrase to avoid the duplication of "VOTES FOR WOMEN" on both sides of the coin. The motion carried by a vote of raised hands, seven in favor, three abstaining.
24. Kellen Hoard raised a question about the delimiters used across the Semiquincentennial coin program that was addressed by Joseph Menna.
25. Following a brief discussion, Michael Moran made a motion, seconded by Sam Gelberd, that the Mint work with stakeholders and subject matter specialists to ensure that the individuals depicted on CRQ-R-02 are appropriately diverse and reflect the spectrum of Americans involved in the Civil Rights movement. After a brief discussion, the motion carried on a vote of raised hands, nine in favor, one abstaining. Annelisa Purdie commented on why she abstained.
26. At the conclusion of the motions for recommendations, Chairperson van Alfen remarked on what had been achieved over the two days of meetings, and the years of preparation for the portfolios, asking for a round of applause for all involved.
27. Chairperson van Alfen asked for a motion to adjourn at 2:23 p.m.