

CCAC Public Meeting
Tuesday, January 25, 2005
801 9th Street. NW
Washington, DC
2nd floor conference Room A

Attending the meeting were Tom Noe (Chairman), Mitch Sanders (Vice Chairman), Ute Wartenberg Kagan (Secretary, by phone), Leon Billings, Bill Fivaz, Rita Laws (by phone), Robert Remini (by phone), and Ken Thomasma. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Tom Noe at 1:00 pm, a quorum of eight members being present.

On motion duly made and seconded, the minutes from the CCAC's November 16, 2004 meeting were approved unanimously with several minor clarifying changes. The committee also discussed the possibility of sending each meeting's minutes to the Secretary of the Treasury as soon as they are available, rather than waiting until after the committee's next meeting. It was agreed that a draft of the minutes from the current meeting would be circulated to members for comments, then sent to the Secretary of the Treasury along with the letter presenting the CCAC's recommendations. In the interest of timely and complete communication, both the minutes and the letter will be sent as soon as possible after each CCAC meeting.

Chairman Noe then initiated a discussion about various subcommittees. It was agreed that Ute Wartenberg Kagan and Rita Laws would constitute the website subcommittee. It was further agreed that the preparation of the 2005 Annual Report did not require a subcommittee, because the 2004 report provided an appropriate precedent and format. Rather, it was decided that later in the year Mitch Sanders would present a draft of the 2005 report for review by the committee as a whole.

There followed a discussion about the possibility of future meetings at sites other than U.S. Mint headquarters. It was agreed that committee meetings at the annual convention of the American Numismatic Association were important opportunities to interact with the numismatic community. It was pointed out that the next two A.N.A. conventions would occur in cities with Mint facilities: San Francisco in 2005 and Denver in 2006. Members discussed the possibility of meeting on occasion in other cities or at other U.S. Mint facilities. Many members expressed the sentiment that the most effective alternative sites would be at other major coin shows around the country. Chairman Noe said that he would discuss this matter with Mint personnel and provide an update at the March CCAC meeting.

The committee then turned its attention to the state quarter designs for North Dakota, Nebraska, and Nevada. Information about designs and the accompanying narratives was presented by Stacy Anderson of the U.S. Mint. The committee evaluated designs using a procedure whereby each member assigned each design a rating of 0, 1, 2, or 3 points, with higher numbers indicating higher ratings. The committee's overall preference was calculated by summing the ratings of all members. With 8 members present and voting, the resulting scale ranges from a minimum of 0 points to a maximum of 24 points. Descriptions of the designs and the committee's recommendations are presented below; the designs themselves are attached as Appendix I.

North Dakota Designs

Number	Title	Primary design element	CCAC Point Rating (maximum=24)
1	Agriculture	A modern farm	17
2	Landscape	Migrating geese	9
3	Badlands	Two buffalo grazing	10

The CCAC recommends design #1 for North Dakota. The Agriculture theme was praised by members as an excellent representation of the state. Members felt that the design could be improved by omitting the farmhouse on the left side of the coin, enhancing the definition of the crop fields to clarify that they represent wheat, and increasing the size of the trees. Design #2 was not favored for several reasons. Regarding design #3, members expressed concern that buffalo had already appeared on many recent American coins, and further that the relief of the background would render the overall design unclear.

Nebraska Designs

Number	Title	Primary design element	CCAC Point Rating (maximum=24)
1	Sower	Statue atop Nebraska state Capitol	9
2	Chimney Rock	Rock formation along Western trail	19
3	State Capitol	State Capitol building in Lincoln	2
4	Standing Bear	Native American rights advocate	20

With the closeness of the point ratings for the two most favored designs, the CCAC recommends either design #2 or design #4. Members described the image on design #2 as both meaningful and historic. In response to concerns from some members, the CCAC advises verification of the anatomical accuracy of the oxen. Regarding design #4, members suggested modifying the design to make it clear that the axe is a pipe axe rather than a regular straight axe. In particular, it was suggested that the axe/pipe be turned so that the bowl of the pipe could be seen, thereby identifying it as a pipe at the lower end. Members also wanted to ensure that the portrait is historically accurate, and to enlarge the image of Standing Bear as much as possible while remaining consistent with the Mint's policy against head-and-shoulders portraits on state quarters. Members also advised that the lettering on design #4 should be placed in a linear form within the fields of the design rather than around the perimeter. Regarding the other designs, #1 was considered to be an unsuccessful rendering in part due to the image being cut off at the knees, and there was little enthusiasm for the image of the state Capitol on design #2.

Nevada Designs

Number	Title	Primary design element	CCAC Point Rating (maximum=24)
1	The Silver State	Miner with pick and shovel	17
2	Nevada Wilderness	Desert bighorn sheep	20
3	Mother Nature's Nevada	Sagebrush, mining implements, star	5

4	Morning in Nevada	Herd of wild horses	1
5	Nevada's Early Heritage	Native American artifacts	3

The committee's most preferred design for Nevada was design #2, with design #1 also receiving considerable support. Members were very enthusiastic about design #2, which was widely praised as both innovative and aesthetically appealing. Members suggested that if Nevada wants to incorporate recognition as "The Silver State" into the design, that motto could be used in place of "All for Our Country" on design #2. For design #1, members recommended removing the shovel and moving the pick from the miner's right shoulder to the left, toward the right rim. It was further suggested that the size of the miner should be reduced, and the mountains in the background should be enlarged. Members agreed that a state outline should not be added to either of these designs. There was little support for design #3, design #4, or design #5.

The committee also received several updates from Mint staff. Madelyn Marchessault presented information about passed and pending bills related to coinage and medals, Ann Bailey revealed Mint plans for future releases of commemorative coins scheduled for 2005, Pat McAfee outlined the Mint's schedule for releasing annual coin products, Stacy Anderson described plans for the Artistic Infusion Program, and Jack Szczerban discussed upcoming Congressional gold medal programs.

After a brief discussion of plans for future meetings, Chairman Noe adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:00 P.M.