



**CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

801 9TH STREET, NW  
WASHINGTON, DC 20220

United States Mint  
801 9<sup>th</sup> Street NW  
Washington, DC 20220  
Minutes of CCAC Public Meeting  
Tuesday, April 16, 2024  
10:01 am-3:51 pm

**I. Attendance**

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

- Dr. Peter van Alfen (Chair)
- Kellen Hoard
- Dr. Christopher Capozzola
- Donald Scarinci
- Annelisa Purdie
- Michael Moran (virtual)
- Dennis Tucker
- John Saunders
- Dr. Harcourt Fuller
- Arthur Bernstein

b. Mint Officers and Staff in Attendance:

- Kristie McNally, Deputy Director of the U.S. Mint
- 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 (virtual)
- Jennifer Warren, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs and Liaison to the CCAC
- Greg Weinman, Senior Legal 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 (remote):

- Mike Unser, Founder and Editor of Coin News Media Group, LLC
- Paul Gilkes, Coin World Senior Editor, AMOS Media



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### d. Liaisons and Public in Attendance:

- For the Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley Congressional Gold Medal:
  - Dr. Sheila Chamberlain, liaison and family member of Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley and representative of the Emmett Till Justice Campaign (virtual)
- For the 2026 Native American \$1 Coin-Oneidas at Valley Forge:
  - Linn Cornelius, representative of the Oneida Nation (virtual)
  - Celia Belmonte, Assistant General Counsel of the Oneida Indian Nation
  - Denise Desiderio, Senior Policy Advisor for Akin on behalf of Oneida Indian nation (in person)

## II. Minutes

- Business Matters:
  1. Chairperson van Alfen called the meeting to order at approximately 10:01am. Chairperson van Alfen conducted roll call and determined that quorum was met. Attendance of media, Mint staff and officers, and liaisons were recognized.
  2. The CCAC minutes and letters to the Secretary of the Treasury from our public meeting on February 27, 2024, were approved via a motion from Dennis Tucker and second by Kellen Hoard.
  3. Chairperson van Alfen offered some comments on the work that lies ahead this year.
  4. Public Service Award was awarded to Dr. Dean Kotlowski. Deputy Director McNally presented the Public Service Award that included the Hamilton Medal and the January 6<sup>th</sup> Medal.
  5. Dr. Kotlowski accepted the award and saying it was an honor to have served and that he missed his colleagues on the committee.
  
- Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley Congressional Gold Medal:
  1. Chairperson van Alfen then introduced the next order of business, reviewing the candidate designs for the Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley Congressional Gold Medal, as authorized by *Public Law 117-334*.
  2. April Stafford, Chief of the Office of Design Management, provided background information on Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley Congressional Gold Medal, and noted that the Mint at this stage is not necessarily asking for recommendations but rather input on the designs that can aid further development.
  3. Ms. Stafford introduced the liaison Dr. Sheila Chamberlain of the Emmett Till Justice Campaign and a family member of Emmett Till and Mamie Till-Mobley, who made a few comments noting the importance of this medal and her hope that it would help unite people.
  4. Ms. Stafford then provided a review of the candidate designs noting the liaison's preferences for **Till-O-02** for the obverse and the concept, but not necessarily the design of **Till-R-04** for the reverse.



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5. After the presentation of the candidate designs, the CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations. A brief discussion occurred of questions by CCAC members and answers by the Mint staff.
  6. With this background, each CCAC member provided comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs. This was followed by further CCAC questions and answers by the liaison.
  7. Before the CCAC scored the candidate designs, CCAC Counsel Greg Weinman made a few comments about the importance of the “merit” column in the score sheets and how merit scores are used to evaluate the artists who contributed to the portfolios.
  8. The CCAC then scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs with obverse design **Till-O-02** and reverse design **Till-R-03** receiving the highest scores (22/30 and 19/30 respectively).
  9. Chairperson van Alfen reminded the Committee that no recommendations to the Secretary of the Treasury were needed at this time, but asked if there were any motions.
  10. Donald Scarinci moved that the inscription “Act of Congress 2023” be placed somewhere on the medal. Dennis Tucker seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
  11. There followed further discussion between the CCAC, the liaison, and the Mint staff.
  12. John Saunders moved that the CCAC recommend obverse design **Till-O-02**, but that no reverse recommendation be made at this time. Dennis Tucker seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.
  13. Chairperson van Alfen then thanked Dr. Chamberlain for her insightful and useful comments.
- 2026 Native American \$1 Coin:
    1. Chairperson van Alfen then introduced the next order of business, reviewing the design candidates for the 2026 Native American \$1 coin, inviting April Stafford to present the portfolio.
    2. Ms. Stafford presented a brief overview of the theme for 2026 and then introduced the three liaisons: Linn Cornelius representing the Oneida Nation; Celia Belmonte, Assistant General Counsel of the Oneida Indian Nation; and Denise Desiderio, Senior Policy Advisor for Akin, representing the Oneida Indian Nation.
    3. Each liaison then made introductory comments in turn.
    4. Ms. Stafford then presented the candidate designs, noting that design **26NA-01** is a preference of Senate Committee on Indian Affairs, and the National Congress of the American Indians; that design **26NA-02** is a preference of Congressional Native American Caucus of the House of Representatives; that design **26NA-03** is a preference of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs; that **26NA-06** is a preference of the National Congress of the American Indians; that **26NA-07** is a preference of the Senate Committee on Indian Affairs and the Congressional Native American Caucus of the House of Representatives.
    5. Chairperson van Alfen then invited the three liaisons to comment on the portfolio in turn, Ms. Desiderio noting a preference for **26NA-03**; Ms. Cornelius noting a preference for **26NA-03** and **26NA-07**, and Ms. Belmonte noting a preference for **26NA-03**.



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6. The CCAC, the Mint staff, and liaisons were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations. A brief discussion occurred between CCAC members, the liaisons, and the Mint staff.
  7. With this background, each CCAC member provided comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs. This was followed by further CCAC questions and answers by the Mint staff, notably Joe Menna, and by the liaisons.
  8. The CCAC then scored the reverse candidate designs with **26NA-07** receiving the highest score (22/30).
  9. Thereupon followed a robust discussion of the candidate designs.
  10. CCAC Counsel Greg Weinman offered additional details on the nuances of the Committee's scoring on the candidate designs.
  11. Michael Moran moved to recommend **26NA-07**. The motion was seconded by Arthur Bernstein. Further discussion ensued, with additional questions directed toward the liaisons.
  12. The motion to recommend **26NA-07** failed in a voice vote.
  13. John Saunders then moved that no recommendation be made at this time, but that designs **26NA-01**, **26NA-03**, and **26NA-07** be modified according to suggestions made during discussions and be presented again to the CCAC for consideration at a future meeting. Dennis Tucker seconded the motion.
  14. Kellen Hoard offered a friendly amendment that Polly Cooper's representation in all candidate designs be made age-appropriate. This amendment was accepted by John Saunders.
  15. On a roll-call vote of 6/4 the motion passed.
  16. Further robust discussion took place about the merits of the motion.
  17. Chairperson van Alfen then thanked the liaisons for their useful and insightful comments.
  18. Chairperson van Alfen called for a recess and to return at 2:00pm.
- 2025 American Liberty 24K Gold Coin and Silver Medal:
    1. Chairperson van Alfen called the meeting back to order at 2:00pm and introduced the next order of business, the review of the candidate designs for the 2025 American Liberty 24K Gold Coin and Silver Medal.
    2. Chairperson van Alfen noted that there is no statutory requirement that both the Gold Coin and Silver Medal share the same obverse and reverse designs.
    3. Chairperson van Alfen invited April Stafford to review the design options.
    4. Following the presentation of the design candidates, the CCAC and the Mint staff were asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.
    5. A brief discussion between Donald Scarinci and Joe Menna ensued on the bold new artistry in the portfolio and the range of artists involved in producing the artwork.
    6. Each CCAC member provided comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs.
    7. There followed a general discussion of the designs amongst the CCAC and the Mint staff.
    8. The CCAC then scored the obverse and reverse candidate designs with **AML-02-O-02-C** and **AML-06-R-12A-C** receiving the highest scores, 20/30 and 22/30 respectively.



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9. Further discussion took place amongst members of the CCAC, including the possibility of recommending a common reverse design for both the Gold Coin and Silver Medal, but recommending separate obverse designs for both.
10. Kellen Hoard made a motion to recommend for the Silver Medal obverse design **AML-02-O-02-M** and reverse design **AML-06-R-12-M**, and for the Gold Coin obverse design **AML-06-O-12-C** paired with reverse **AML-06-R-12A-C**. The motion was seconded by Michael Moran.
11. Further discussion on the motion ensued, with the question raised if the motion could be revised to approve the proposed Gold Coin pairing, before considering the Silver Medal pairing. Mr. Hoard accepted this revision to the motion.
12. The motion to recommend obverse **AML-06-O-12-C** paired with reverse **AML-06-R-12A-C** for the Gold Coin passed unanimously.
13. Kellen Hoard the moved to recommend obverse design **AML-02-O-02-M** for the Silver Medal, which was seconded by Donald Scarinci.
14. The motion passed 9/1 on a voice vote.
15. There followed further discussion about which of the reverse designs in the portfolio might be successfully paired with obverse design **AML-02-O-02-M**.
16. Kellen Hoard moved to recommend reverse design **AML-06-R-12-M** for the Silver Medal, which was seconded by Harcourt Fuller.
17. The motion failed to pass in a roll call vote, with three in favor, six against, and one abstaining.
18. Following further discussion, Michael Moran moved that reverse design **AML-16-R-23-M** be recommended for the Silver Medal, which was seconded by John Saunders.
19. The motion failed in a voice vote.
20. Further discussion between the CCAC and Mint staff took place, wherein it was decided that obverse and reverse designs **AML-06-O-12-M** and **AML-06-R-12-M** would be the recommended default designs for the Silver Medal in the event that the Mint was not able to present to the CCAC with a suitable reverse pairing for obverse **AML-02-O-02-M** at a future CCAC meeting.
21. Chairperson van Alfen then thanked the attendees for their thoughtful consideration and discussions and called for the meeting to be recessed until 9:00am the following day.