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

Minutes of CCAC Public Meeting

Virtual/Microsoft Teams
October 6, 2026
10:03 a.m. – 3:24 p.m.

I. Attendance

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

- Arthur Bernstein (Acting CCAC Chair)
- Dr. Peter van Alfen
- Dr. Christopher Capozzola
- Samuel Gelberd
- Kellen Hoard
- Michael Moran
- Annelisa Purdie
- John Saunders
- Donald Scarinci
- Jeanne Stevens-Sollman

b. United States Mint Officers and Staff in Attendance

- Kristie McNally, Deputy Director of the United States Mint
- Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief, Office of Design Management
- Megan Sullivan, Senior Design Specialist, Office of Design Management and Liaison to the CCAC
- Sukrita Baijal, Designer Manager, Office of Design Management
- Boneza Hanchock, Design Manager, Office of Design Management
- Michael Costello, Manager, Design and Engraving
- Joseph Menna, Chief Engraver
- James Kennedy, Counsel to the CCAC
- Betty Birdsong, Chief of Staff
- Greg Weinman, Acting Chief Counsel
- Sasha McNickle, Attorney-Advisor

c. Liaisons/stakeholders/subject-matter experts for the portfolios:

- For Nebraska
  - Breanna Wirth, Policy Advisor to Governor Jim Pillen
  - Daryl Bohac, Director of the Nebraska Historical Society
- For Colorado
  - Dr. Mike Bartolo, Vegetable Crop Specialist at Colorado State University and inventor of the Mosco variety of the Pueblo Chile

    - Dr. Rachael Storm, Curator of Business & Industry at History Colorado
- For North Dakota
    - Mike Kennedy, Governor's Liaison and Deputy Communications Director in the Office of the Governor of North Dakota
    - Trevor Woods, Executive Director of the Northern Plains UAS Test Site
- For South Dakota
    - Dr. Benjamin Jones, Governor's Liaison, South Dakota State Historian, and Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society
    - Dr. Ken Zontek, History Instructor at Yakima Valley College

d. Members of the Media in Attendance:

- Dennis Tucker, American News Agency
- Larry Jewett, Whitman Brands

II. Minutes

a. Business Matters:

1. Acting Chairperson Bernstein called the meeting to order at approximately 10:03 a.m. Acting Chairperson Bernstein conducted roll call and determined that quorum was met. Attendance of media and Mint staff were recognized.

2. The first order of business was to approve the letters and minutes from the August 6, 2026 public meeting. Acting Chairperson Bernstein asked if there were comments or corrections to the letter. Hearing none, Kellen Hoard made a motion to approve the letters and minutes, which was seconded by Peter van Alfen. The motion carried unanimously.

3. The second order of business was to approve the Fiscal Year 2026 CCAC Annual Report. Michael Moran made a motion to table the item and ask the Acting Chair to refine the language in the report prior to the next meeting. The motion was seconded by Peter van Alfen. The motion carried unanimously.

b. 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin – Nebraska

1. The next order of business for the day was discussion of the reverse design for the 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin for Nebraska. The innovation for Nebraska is Center Pivot Irrigation. The CCAC joined by Breanna Wirth, Policy Advisor to Governor Jim Pillen and Daryl Bohac, Director of the Nebraska Historical Society.

2. Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief of Design Management, provided background on the portfolio.

3. The CCAC and the Mint staff were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.

4. Several CCAC members raised questions about various aspects of the portfolio, including artistic considerations, which were answered by Mint staff.

5. Acting Chairperson Bernstein then invited each member of the CCAC to comment on the portfolio and then the CCAC proceeded to score the designs and send them to Jim Kennedy for tallying. A short break then began.

6. On resumption of the meeting, Acting Chairperson invited Jim Kennedy to read the scores. The design with the highest vote was NE-02 (26 out of 30 points).

7. Following the scoring, the Acting Chairperson asked if there were any motions. Peter van Alfen made a motion seconded by Kellen Hoard to recommend the design with the highest score, NE-02. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

c. 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin – Colorado

1. The next order of business for the day was the discussion of the reverse design for the 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin for Colorado. The innovation for Colorado is the Mosco Pueblo Chile. The CCAC was joined by Dr. Mike Bartolo, Vegetable Crop Specialist at Colorado State University and inventor of the Mosco variety of the Pueblo Chile, and Dr. Rachael Storm, Curator of Business & Industry at History Colorado.

2. Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief of Design Management, provided background on the portfolio.

3. The CCAC and the Mint staff were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.

4. Several CCAC members raised questions about various aspects of the portfolio, including artistic considerations, which were answered by Mint staff.

5. Acting Chairperson Bernstein then invited each member of the CCAC to comment on the portfolio and then the CCAC proceeded to score the designs and send them to Jim Kennedy for tallying. A short break then began.

6. On resumption of the meeting, Acting Chairperson invited Jim Kennedy to read the scores. The design with the highest vote was CO-01 (28 out of 30 points).

7. Following the scoring, the Acting Chairperson asked if there were any motions. Peter van Alfen made a motion seconded by Sam Gelberd to recommend the design with the highest score, CO-01. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

d. 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin – North Dakota

1. The next order of business for the day was the discussion of the reverse design for the 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin for North Dakota. The innovation for North Dakota is Innovation in Unmanned Aircraft. The CCAC was joined by Mike Kennedy, Governor's Liaison and Deputy Communications Director in the Office of the Governor of North Dakota, and Trevor Woods, Executive Director of the Northern Plains UAS Test Site.

2. Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief of Design Management, provided background on the portfolio.

3. The CCAC and the Mint staff were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.

4. Several CCAC members raised questions about various aspects of the portfolio, including artistic considerations, which were answered by Mint staff.

5. Acting Chairperson Bernstein then invited each member of the CCAC to comment on the portfolio and then the CCAC proceeded to score the designs and send them to Jim Kennedy for tallying. A short break then began.

6. On resumption of the meeting, Acting Chairperson invited Jim Kennedy to read the scores. The design with the highest vote was ND-05 (26 out of 30 points).

7. Following the scoring, the Acting Chairperson asked if there were any motions. Kellen Hoard made a motion seconded by John Saunders to recommend the design with the highest score, ND-05. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

e. 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin – South Dakota

1. The next order of business for the day was the discussion of the reverse design for the 2028 American Innovation $1 Coin for South Dakota. The innovation for South Dakota is The Duprees – Saving the American Buffalo. The CCAC was joined by Dr. Benjamin Jones, Governor's Liaison, South Dakota State Historian, and Director of the South Dakota State Historical Society, and Dr. Ken Zontek, History Instructor at Yakima Valley College.

2. Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief of Design Management, provided background on the portfolio.

3. The CCAC and the Mint staff were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.

4. Several CCAC members raised questions about various aspects of the portfolio, including artistic considerations, which were answered by Mint staff.

5. Acting Chairperson Bernstein then invited each member of the CCAC to comment on the portfolio and then the CCAC proceeded to score the designs and send them to Jim Kennedy for tallying. A short break then began.

6. On resumption of the meeting, Acting Chairperson invited Jim Kennedy to read the scores. The design with the highest vote was SD-04 (26 out of 30 points).

7. Following the scoring, the Acting Chairperson asked if there were any motions. Peter van Alfen made a motion seconded by Jeanne Stevens-Sollman to recommend the design with the highest score, SD-04. The motion passed with 9 votes in favor and one abstention. A lunch break then began.

f. 2027 Comic Art Coin and Medal Program – Aquaman

1. On resumption of the meeting, the next order of business for the day was the discussion of the obverse and reverse designs for the 2027 Comic Art Coin and Medals featuring Aquaman.

2. Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief of Design Management, provided background on the portfolio.

3. The CCAC and the Mint staff were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.

4. Several CCAC members raised questions about various aspects of the portfolio, including artistic considerations, which were answered by Mint staff.

5. Acting Chairperson Bernstein then invited each member of the CCAC to comment on the portfolio and then the CCAC proceeded to score the designs and send them to Jim Kennedy for tallying. A short break then began.

6. On resumption of the meeting, Acting Chairperson invited Jim Kennedy to read the scores. The obverse set of AM-G-O-03, AM-S-O-03, and AM-SC-O-03 received the highest obverse score (25 out of 30 points), and the reverse set of AM-G-R-01 and AM-MEDAL-R-01 received the highest reverse score (24 out of 30 points).

7. Following the scoring, the Acting Chairperson asked if there were any motions. Peter van Alfen made a motion seconded by Jeanne Stevens-Sollman to recommend the designs with the highest scores, obverse set AM-G-O-03, AM-S-O-03, and AM-SC-O-03, and reverse set AM-G-R-01 and AM-MEDAL-R-01. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

g. 2027 Comic Art Coin and Medal Program – Batgirl

1. The next order of business for the day was the discussion of the obverse and reverse designs for the 2027 Comic Art Coin and Medals featuring Batgirl.

2. Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief of Design Management, provided background on the portfolio.

3. The CCAC and the Mint staff were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.

4. Several CCAC members raised questions about various aspects of the portfolio, including artistic considerations, which were answered by Mint staff.

5. Acting Chairperson Bernstein then invited each member of the CCAC to comment on the portfolio and then the CCAC proceeded to score the designs and send them to Jim Kennedy for tallying. A short break then began.

6. On resumption of the meeting, the obverse set of BG-G-O-01, BG-S-0-01 and BG-SC-O-01 received the highest obverse score (22 out of 30 points) and the reverse set of BG-R-02 and BG-MEDAL-R-02 received the highest reverse score (17 out of 30 points).

7. Following the scoring, the Acting Chairperson asked if there were any motions. Peter van Alfen made a motion seconded by Chris Capozzola to recommend the designs with the highest scores, obverse set BG-G-O-01, BG-S-0-01 and BG-SC-O-01 and reverse set BG-R-02 and BG-MEDAL-R-02 and requesting that the Mint take every step necessary to declutter the reverse design. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

h. 2027 Comic Art and Medal Program – The Flash

1. The final order of business for the day was the discussion of the obverse and reverse designs for the 2027 Comic Art Coin and Medals featuring The Flash.

2. Roger Vasquez, Acting Chief of Design Management, provided background on the portfolio.

3. The CCAC and the Mint staff were then asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.

4. Several CCAC members raised questions about various aspects of the portfolio, including artistic considerations, which were answered by Mint staff.

5. Acting Chairperson Bernstein then invited each member of the CCAC to comment on the portfolio and then the CCAC proceeded to score the designs and send them to Jim Kennedy for tallying. A short break then began.

6. On resumption of the meeting, the obverse set of TF-G-O-03, TF-S-O-03, and TF-SC-O-03 received the highest obverse score (27 out of 30 points) and the reverse set of TF-G-R-01 and TF-MEDAL-R-01 received the highest reverse score (20 out of 30 points).

7. Following the scoring, the Acting Chairperson asked if there were any motions. John Saunders made a motion seconded by Peter van Alfen to recommend the designs with the highest scores, obverse set TF-G-O-03, TF-S-O-03, and TF-SC-O-03 and reverse set TF-G-R-01 and TF-MEDAL-R-01. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

8. Peter van Alfen motioned to adjourn, seconded by Donald Scarinci. The motion passed by unanimous voice vote. The meeting ended at 3:24 p.m.