

# Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee

801 Ninth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20220



## Citizens Coinage Advisory Committee

Public Meeting

August 10, 2007

Midwest Airlines Center, Room 102A

Milwaukee, WI 53203

In attendance:

John Alexander

Michael Brown

Bill Fivaz

Rita Laws

Rev. Richard Meier

Mitch Sanders (chair)

Donald Scarinci

Ken Thomasma (via telephone)

S. Joseph Winter (via telephone)

1. The chair called the meeting to order at approximately 9:15 AM.
2. The minutes of the committee's May 15, 2007 meeting were unanimously approved, with one additional sentence as suggested by Mr. Alexander.
3. The chair welcomed members of the numismatic community to the meeting, which was held in conjunction with the annual convention of the American Numismatic Association.
4. Cynthia Meals, Assistant Director of Internal Relations, Sales, and Marketing for the United States Mint, presented proposed themes for the reverses of proof and uncirculated American Eagle platinum coins made for collectors, starting in the year 2009.
5. Ms. Meals presented three proposed themes, all of which explore and symbolize the core concepts of democracy in the United States:
  - a) Documents of Freedom (3 years): Declaration of Independence, United States Constitution, Bill of Rights
  - b) United States Constitution Preamble (6 years): We the People, Establish Justice, Insure Domestic Tranquility, Provide for Common Defense, Promote the General Welfare, Secure the Blessings of Liberty to Ourselves and Our Posterity
  - c) Declaration of Independence (3 years): All Men Are Created Equal, "Unalienable" Rights, Consent of the Governed

6. Ms. Meals also indicated that the Mint was considering including a small “privy mark” in the shape of an eagle, to maintain the identity of the series – “American Eagle” – even if the coin’s design did not portray an eagle as the major design element.
7. The committee voted 9-0 to endorse the “United States Constitution Preamble” theme. Members considered that proposed theme to be most amenable to creative coin design, and felt that six years was an appropriate length of time for this series of coins.
8. The committee then turned to a review of proposed narratives for the 2008-2009 issues of the First Spouse program. Under this program, the United States Mint will design and issue \$10 gold coins emblematic of the spouse of each President, along with bronze duplicates. An image of the First Spouse will appear on the obverse, with a reverse depicting an image emblematic of the First Spouse’s life and work. The subjects in 2009 will be: Anna Harrison, Letitia Tyler, Julia Tyler, Sarah Polk, and Margaret Taylor.
9. Members of the committee generally recognized the difficulty of the subject matter for these narratives, and felt that the narratives were well-done.
10. After the adjournment of the public meeting, the CCAC held a Public Forum, where individuals from the numismatic community expressed their ideas about United States coin design.
11. The committee received several comments from forum attendees (some of which related to issues that are beyond the scope of the committee’s consideration of coin design). Comments were received on the following topics: the size of mintmarks on coins, the usability of the 50-cent piece, the virtues of allegorical coin designs, and the circulation of the dollar coin.
12. The public forum was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.