



CITIZENS COINAGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

801 9TH STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20220

United States Mint
801 9th Street NW
Washington DC 20220
Minutes of CCAC Public Meeting (Videoconference)
Tuesday, November 15, 2022
(10 am–12 pm)

I. Attendance

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

- Dr. Lawrence Brown (Chair)
- Robin Salmon
- Dennis Tucker
- Dr. Peter Van Alfen
- Arthur Bernstein
- Dr. Harcourt Fuller
- Mary Lannin

Joining the Meeting in Progress

- Donald Scarinci

Not in Attendance

- Dr. Dean Kotlowski
- Michael Moran
- Sam Gill

b. Mint Officers and Staff in Attendance:

- April Stafford, Chief, Office of Design Management
- Megan Sullivan, Senior Design Specialist, Office of Design Management
- Boneza Hancock, Design Manager, Office of Design Management
- Pam Borer, Design Manager, Office of Design Management
- Roger Vasquez, Senior Design Specialist, Office of Design Management
- Russell Evans, Design Manager, Office of Design Management
- Jennifer Warren, Director of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs and Liaison to the CCAC
- Michael Costello, Manager, Design and Engraving
- Greg Weinman, Senior Legal Counsel, Counsel to the CCAC
- Brendan Tate, Senior Government Affairs Specialist, Office of Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs
- Mike White, Office of Corporate Communication

c. Members of the Media in Attendance (virtual):

- Mike Unser, Founder and Editor of Coin News Media Group
- Paul Gilkes, Senior Editor, Amos Media/Coin World,
- Brandon Hall, Senior Associate Editor, Whitman Publishing,

- d. Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Liaisons in Attendance:
- Rick Beyer, President of the Ghost Army Legacy Project;
 - Roy Eichhorn, Board member of the Ghost Army Legacy Project; and
 - Stephanie Leech, daughter of a member of the Ghost Army.

II. Minutes

1. Chair Brown, called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.
2. Chair Brown took roll call of the CCAC members and determined that the quorum was met. Attendance of media, Mint staff and officers, and liaisons was recognized.
3. Before presenting the obverse and reverse candidate designs for the Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal, April Stafford, Chief, Office of Design Management, provided the background of *Public Law 117-85*, the Ghost Army Congressional Gold Medal Act, which awards a Congressional Gold Medal to the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133rd Signal Service Company, known collectively as The Ghost Army in recognition of their unique and highly distinguished service in conducting deception operations in Europe during World War II. The Ghost Army, comprised of approximately 1300 soldiers, was unique in the variety of media employed and its ability to portray the size and movement of actual units, often more than 10 times their size. Mr. Rick Beyer, President of the Ghost Army Legacy Project, Mr. Roy Eichhorn, Board member of the Ghost Army Legacy Project, and Stephanie Leech, daughter of a member of the Ghost Army, offered invaluable historical comments and context, including why the heroics of these soldiers were kept secret for decades.
4. Inscriptions of the seven obverse candidate designs feature “GERMANY – FRANCE – LUXEMBOURG – ITALY – BELGIUM,” “THE GHOST ARMY,” “WORLD WAR II,” “WWII,” “FRANCE – NORMANDY – BELGIUM – GERMANY – LUXEMBOURG,” “SAVING LIVES THROUGH DECEPTION,” “NORTHERN FRANCE – NORMANDY – CENTRAL EUROPE – ARDENNES-ALSACE – PO VALLEY – RHINELAND” and “ILLUSION AGAINST IRON,” “2022,” “ACT OF CONGRESS,” “23RD HEADQUARTERS SPECIAL TROOPS,” “3133RD SIGNAL SERVICE COMPANY,” “ACT OF CONGRESS 2022,” “THE GHOST ARMY OF WORLD WAR II,” “VISUAL & RADIO DECEPTIONS & SPECIAL EFFECTS,” and “THE 23RD HEADQUARTERS SPECIAL TROOPS.”
5. Inscriptions of the nine reverse candidate designs include “SAVING LIVES THROUGH DECEPTION,” “FRANCE,” “LUXEMBOURG,” “BELGIUM,” “GERMANY,” “ITALY,” “WORLD WAR II,” “ILLUSION AGAINST IRON,” “ACT OF CONGRESS 2022,” “NORMANDY – NORTHERN FRANCE – CENTRAL EUROPE – ARDENNES-ALSACE – RHINELAND – PO VALLEY,” “FRANCE – LUXEMBOURG – BELGIUM – GERMANY – ITALY,” “FRANCE – BELGIUM,” and “LUXEMBOURG – GERMANY – ITALY,” “THE GHOST ARMY OF WORLD WAR II,” “SONIC DECEPTIONS ALONG THE GOTHIC LINE,” “THE 3133RD SIGNAL SERVICE COMPANY,” and “SAVING LIVES THROUGH DECEPTION.”
6. After the presentation of the obverse candidate designs and the reverse candidate designs, Mint staff and liaisons were asked if there were any legal, technical, or other considerations.
7. With this background, each CCAC member provided comments regarding the obverse and reverse candidate designs. On a motion by Mary Lannin, seconded by Arthur Bernstein, the CCAC recommended unanimously obverse **GA-O-03** with inclusion of the inscription of “2022 Act of Congress” be included and reverse **GA-R-05**, both of which were also recommended by the Ghost Army Legacy Project liaisons.

8. Obverse **GA-O-03** depicts the four main methods of subterfuge practiced by the Ghost Army. A telegrapher is shown keying a message in Morse code together with a soldier sewing a phony unity patch onto his uniform. In the background, a soldier stands alongside a half-track with a loudspeaker attached to it, and behind a group of soldiers carry an inflatable tank. The inscriptions are “THE GHOST ARMY” and “WORLD WAR II.”
9. Reverse **GA-R-05** depicts the emblems of the 23rd Headquarters Special Troops and the 3133rd Signal Service Company and a narrative inscription fills the field, presenting the information like a telegraph transmission, the treatment of the text reinforcing the secretive nature of the Ghost Army’s Mission.
10. The Ghost Army Legacy Project liaisons were thanked for their participation and the invaluable information they provided.
11. The CCAC next considered the minutes and the letters to the Secretary from the CCAC’s September 27, 2022, meetings, which were unanimously approved via a motion from Dr. Peter Van Alfen, seconded by Mary Lannin.
12. The CCAC next considered and reviewed the Fiscal Year 2022 Annual report. Chair Brown shared that pursuant to Section 5135 of title 31 United States Code, the CCAC is to submit an annual report to the Secretary of the Treasury, the House Committee on Financial Services and the Senate Committee on Banking, Housing and Urban Affairs. By statute, this report is due on September 30th each year, but consistent with the statute and past practice, it was communicated to the Secretary and Congress earlier this year that additional time was needed to include the September 27, 2022, meeting to the annual report and that we expect to deliver our report by no later than December 19, 2022.
13. On a motion by Mary Lannin, seconded by Dr. Peter Van Alfen, the CCAC recommended unanimously to authorize the United States Mint to transmit the annual report to the Secretary and Congress with the edits that have been submitted prior to the meeting and any other technical corrections that the Mint finds necessary.
14. As the CCAC had completed all matters scheduled for this meeting, Chair Brown expressed appreciation of the participation in this meeting by the public, the media, the Mint staff, and the CCAC members. Chair Brown announced the next public meeting to be on January 24, 2023.
15. The meeting was adjourned at 12:56 pm following a motion by Arthur Bernstein and seconded by Robin Salmon.