AGENDA

● Call to Order
  ○ Chair Fitch called the meeting to order at 3:05pm

● Roll Call / Attendance
  ○ Lindsey Dyer conducted attendance:
    ■ 10/13 voting SERC members present (not present: Dr. Kate Beane, Shelley Buck, President Robert ‘Deuce’ Larsen)
    ■ 3/4 ex officio SERC members present (not present: Rep. Mike Freiberg)

● Adoption of Agenda
  ○ No discussion; agenda was approved

● Review edits and proposed drafts:
  ○ DRAFT MN State Flag and Seal Design Brief & Timeline (attachment)
    ■ Chair Fitch and Vice Chair Gaul walked through redline updates/changes
    ■ Continued conversation re: omitting language around “progress” or “progressive”
    ■ Commission discussed not including a public comment section to the initial flag submission; essence was that public comments may negatively and unnecessarily impact the process, including individuals submitting entries
    ■ Motion to approve the DRAFT MN State Flag and Seal Design Brief & Timeline; motion was approved; documents were approved

● Public input:
  ○ MNHS presented status of plan for technology and public input
    ■ MNHS has a draft public input submission document and process in place which will need to be informed by further conversation about submission rules and conditions
  ○ Discuss parameters for submission of entries / suggestions
    Example: who is eligible to submit designs/vote (MN resident? US resident?), limitations on number of submissions, number of votes, etc.
    ■ Gather list of potential parameters; solicit Commission member support to find answers/suggestions and report back prior to next meeting
      ● The Commission discussed parameters, such as: residency (MN, US, etc), number of submissions, whether/how to accept comments, electronic vs. mail submissions, digital requirements
Some Commission members were in favor of fewer restrictions; others were in favor of a tighter process for submission

There was an expressed concern about being prepared by the Sept. 25 deadline (per the approved timeline); MNHS will need responses to the qualifiers before launching the public input and will request Commission support for outreach in addition to MNHS marketing efforts

○ There was interest in collaborating with the public library system and the Dept. of Education for outreach efforts

○ Several comments were made re: connecting with small town newspapers and local news channels

The intellectual property of submissions was discussed; suggestion was to connect with a lawyer (pro bono?) to advise

There was an expressed interest in including past flag submissions in this process

Commission members discussed that including a text field for an explanation of the flag submission and/or an brief description of the applicant’s ties to Minnesota may be of use for the selection process

It was agreed that SERC members (or their immediate families) may not submit flag or seal entries

Payment and/or recognition of the artists was addressed; there was concern over not paying artists for their work, in addition to ensuring that finalists receive recognition for their designs

There was an interest in translating the public input information into other languages

Mazone and Senator Kunesh volunteered to assist with the process of: researching other relevant submission processes (from other states, like Utah or Maine), and proposing how to answer some of the qualifying questions that were discussed during today’s meeting

○ Mazone and Kunesh will report back to the SERC prior to the next meeting where rules and guidelines for submitting design ideas will be reviewed, discussed, and decided on

Meetings and Next Steps:

○ Discuss recurring meeting days/times:

  ***Please bring calendar and be prepared to set meeting dates***

  ■ Tuesdays 9-10:30am
  ■ Tuesdays 12-1:30pm
  ■ Tuesdays 3-4:30pm
  ■ Thursdays 12-1:30pm
  ■ Thursdays 3-4:30pm
  ■ Friday 10-11:30am
Fridays 12-1:30pm

- Date options were discussed; real time feedback was received
- Lindsey Dyer will follow up with Commission members, especially those who were unable to attend today’s meeting, and set the recurring meeting date/time

- Adjourn

Attachments:

- MN SERC Design Brief and Timeline (Adopted 9/20/23)