

MEETING NOTES: State Emblems Redesign Commission: Sept. 20 Mtg.

Wednesday, Sept. 20, 2023

3-4:30pm

[Meeting was held virtually]

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, etd), 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)