AGENDA

● Call to Order
  ○ Chair Fitch called the meeting to order at 9:01 am

● Roll Call / Attendance
  ○ Lindsey Dyer conducted attendance:
    ■ 12/13 voting SERC members present (not present: President Robert ‘Deuce’ Larsen)
    ■ 4/4 ex officio SERC members present

● Adoption of Agenda
  ○ Motion to approve the agenda was made by Buck; seconded by Jackson
  ○ No discussion; agenda was approved

● Updates from Chair/Vice Chair
  ○ MNHS shared an update re: data practices
    ■ An inquiry has been made to the Data Practices Office
    ■ It is still to be determined how and when the submissions will be shared to the Commission members and to the public
  ○ Vice Chair Gaul shared the K-8 SERC/Flag and Seal youth activity that she created for her local 4-H youth groups
    ■ The activity encourages youth to think critically about how Minnesota is represented in symbols, colors, and design; it prompted questions about collective representation and meaning
    ■ Documents from Vice Chair Gaul’s activity will be shared with the Commission to adapt for their communities

● Update on submissions and PR/media
  ○ MNHS reported that there were just under 600 flag/seal submissions to date; 90% of submissions were for the state flag, 10% of submissions were for the state seal
  ○ MNHS provided an update on overall media coverage
    ■ There have been over 300 media hits of all types since the public submission process launched; positive traction with rural communities as well
  ○ MNHS has contacted the Legislative Reference Library re: past submissions; the library has documentation including bills and committee hearings but they do not have the past flag images; some images of previous newspaper initiatives is available

● Finalist selection process
Discuss options for sorting and ranking designs
Review possible mechanisms for narrowing down to finalists
  MNHS reported that the method for narrowing down and sorting the submissions would dictate the technology that would be used
  Commission discussed options for narrowing down the submissions, which could be as simple as pencil/paper to as complex as bringing in a vendor to support the technology aspect of this process
  Options for sorting were discussed, including narrowing by: design elements, symbols, and colors
  Commission discussed the creation of a subcommittee (1 for the flag design; 1 for the seal design) that would assist with the narrowing down process
    Flag subcommittee: Luis Fitch, Kim Jackson, Lauren Bennett McGinty, and Denise Mazone were interested in serving on the flag subcommittee
    Seal subcommittee: Kent Whitworth and Denise Mazone were interested in serving on the seal subcommittee
    It was discussed that the subcommittee(s) could meet on a forthcoming Tuesday (9-10:30am) in lieu of the full Commission meeting
  Commission members emphasized the importance of public input for the selection process
  There was an interest in bringing in a vexillologist and/or a public notary to testify on best practices for flag and seal design

Meetings and next steps
  Update on in-person meetings
  November meeting: determining finalists; possible public input
  November and/or December meetings: determining final designs
    MNHS discussed meeting location options including the Minnesota History Center as well as the MN State Capitol hearing rooms
    Chair Fitch described a possible in-person meeting process; it is estimated that 4 hours will be needed, though some Commission members thought we may need more time

Adjourn
  Chair Fitch adjourned the meeting at 10:18am