

MEETING NOTES: State Emblems Redesign Commission: Oct. 31 Mtg.

Tuesday, Oct. 31, 2023

9:00-10:30am

[Meeting was held virtually]

AGENDA

- Call to Order
 - *Chair Fitch called the meeting to order at 9:02 am*
- Roll Call / Attendance
 - *Lindsey Dyer conducted attendance:*
 - *12/13 voting SERC members present (not present: President Robert 'Deuce' Larsen)*
 - *3/4 ex officio SERC members present (not present: Senator Steve Drazkowski)*
- Adoption of Agenda
 - *Motion to approve the agenda was made by Whitworth; seconded by McKenzie*
 - *No discussion; agenda was approved*
- Updates from Chair/Vice Chair
 - *Chair Fitch shared that approximately 2,600 entries were received (85% flags and 15% seals) and expressed gratitude for all who have participated:*
 - *"Thank you, Minnesota! Your entries are creative, vibrant, colorful, and show the many attributes of our amazing state. You have given us a great starting point as we embark on the next phase of our process. Thank you for all of the work that you have put into your submissions!!"*
 - *MNHS shared a series of seals that represent the various city, county, and tribal governments, and other agencies in Minnesota; document will be shared with the Commission as a reference for the seal design process*
 - *MNHS shared an update on the SERC budget (\$35,000)*
 - *A good portion of the budget is directed toward staffing costs*
 - *There will be limited funds available for printing and further administrative costs*
- Update on submissions and PR/media
 - *MNHS shared that there were several last-minute interview requests; there was a good amount of media coverage in the final rush*
 - *Chair Fitch and Vice Chair Gaul were thanked for their interviews in the final days before submission closed*
- Timeline for selection process
 - *Review and approval of updated DRAFT SERC Meeting and Process Timeline (attachment)*

- *Chair Fitch shared an updated DRAFT of the timeline, highlighting the public input process updates*
- *Commission members were overall in favor of the updated timeline; there was discussion to clarify that submission names were not used (only specific identifying numbers) and to clarify that the Commission would receive the statements that related to the submissions*
- *Motion to approve the timeline was made by Mazone; seconded by Jackson*
- *No discussion; timeline was approved*
- Specialist testimony (TBD)
 - *Ted Kaye from the North American Vexillological Association (NAVA) joined as a specialist to present an overview of how to choose a flag design and offer tangible considerations during the selection process*
 - *Kaye's presentation slides (available on the [SERC website](#)) was a basic primer on flag design and focused on themes of simplicity and recognizability*
 - *Commission members followed with a brief discussion about the presentation*
 - *There was a question about color-blind considerations for shades and designs*
- Meetings and next steps: update on in-person meetings
 - Nov. 21: 1-5pm and 5-9pm (as needed)
 - Location: St. Paul, MN (meeting room TBD)
 - Dec. 12: 1-5pm and 5-9pm (as needed)
 - Location: St. Paul, MN (meeting room TBD)
 - Dec. 15: 1-5pm (as needed)
 - Location: Virtual or in-person [TBD]
- Adjourn
 - *Chair Fitch adjourned the meeting at 10:33am*

Attachments:

- DRAFT: SERC Meeting and Process Timeline (Updated)