

NEBRASKA STATE QUARTER DESIGN COMMITTEE MEETING
STATE CAPITOL, ROOM 1525
LINCOLN, NE
Friday, May 7, 2004 - 9:30 am

PRESENT: Secretary of State John Gale (joined the meeting at approximately 10 am), Tom Bassett, Virgil Marshall, Dr. Michael Schuyler, Gordon Howard, & staff member Sharon Hambek

ABSENT: Roger Bruhn, Jodi Rave, Norman Geske

Open Meeting Notice: Tom Bassett called the meeting to order at 9:35 am noting that when Secretary of State John Gale arrived at the meeting there would be enough members present to be sufficient for a quorum. He also stated notice of this meeting had been posted on the State's internet public meeting calendar in compliance with the Public Meeting Law. The agenda was posted on the Secretary of State web site and has been available in the office of the Secretary of State for inspection during regular business hours.

Omaha World Herald: Mr. Bassett passed around the morning Omaha World Herald which had a nice article about the quarter design on the front page.

Design Entry Report: Ms. Hambek reported that prior to the deadline of May 1, 2004 she had received approximately 6,500 entries. She also reported that approximately 2,500 to 3,000 of those had come in within the week just prior to the deadline. Committee members were encouraged to contact Ms. Hambek and make arrangements to review the submitted designs.

Artist: Shawn Drapal, from the Records Management Division of the Secretary of State's office was introduced. Shawn has a degree from UNL in Fine Arts and has done some work of making signs, etc. He stated that right now he does most of his drawing for himself but was working at building his portfolio and would really like to work with the Committee and the quarter design. Mr. Bassett explained to him the Committee needs someone that could draw various icons suggested by them on a quarter design during meetings or perhaps give him some ideas of icons they would like to see used and ask him to provide some ideas of how they might be arranged. Shawn thought this would be something he could do and would enjoy. He stated he had made arrangements with his supervisor to attend at least this meeting and the one scheduled for June 4th. He stated he was sure he would be able to make arrangements to attend any of the meetings the Committee needed him to. It was suggested the Administrative Subcommittee meet and review some of his sketches.

Minutes & Agenda: After Secretary Gale joined the meeting, a motion was made by Dr. Schuyler, seconded by Mr. Marshall to accept the minutes as mailed. Motion carried.

Presentation: Secretary Gale introduced Captain James Taylor with STRATCOM. He presented information on the history and significance of STRATCOM to both Nebraska and to national security. Captain Taylor stated using the STRATCOM icon on the quarter would be a good opportunity to market the state. He stated if the Committee decided to use their icon and needed any written documentation to accompany the narrative to the U.S. Mint he would be glad to work with them.

UNL Campaign Journalism Class: Mr. Bassett reported that he, Secretary Gale, Ms. Hambek and Gary Seacrest, Communications Director for Secretary Gale, attended the Campaign Journalism Class Launch Event presentations on April 27th. He noted the students had done considerable research on what the public would like to see, what venues might be available for the event and certainly pointed out the fact that the Committee is going to have to raise some money for this event. Secretary Gale handed out a copy of the notes he had taken at the presentations. He noted the results from the student's research basically pointed out three things the public would like to see of this event: center around the family, be fun and informative.

Some discussion was held with regard to the possible date of the launch. Mr. Marshall noted that Michigan had requested to change their launch date by three weeks. He thought if we wanted a specific date, there may be a possibility of getting approval for that. Ms. Hambek was asked to contact the U.S. Mint prior to the next meeting to inquire about what the Nebraska launch date might be.

It was noted that the Committee may need to create an advisory group of other individuals from outside the Committee to assist a Finance Committee to raise funds for the event.

Discussion was also held with regard to whether or not we should hold only one event, most likely in Lincoln, or should there be one large main event with other smaller events across the state in the following days. It was the consensus of the Committee that they liked the idea of one large event with possibly three other events across the state. It was felt the other locations would probably need to be decided after it was determined what icons were on the final quarter design.

It was suggested that possibly some members of the Committee attend a launch event at a nearby state, possibly Iowa. At the very least, it was thought that Ms. Hambek or someone could contact an individual that had already done a launch event and find out what worked and what didn't work.

Recess: The meeting was recessed at 11 am. It was reconvened at 11:20 am with a quorum present.

Categorization Subcommittee: Mr. Marshall stated he would be in to review the recently received entries as soon as he could and get them into categories for the remainder of the Committee to review. Committee members were again urged to make arrangements to review the designs. If at all possible members were encouraged to try to get through most of them prior to the June 4th meeting.

Public Comment Subcommittee: Mr. Howard reported that he had spoken to about 14 classes and some additional organizations regarding the quarter program over the past several weeks.

Administrative Subcommittee: Secretary Gale asked the Committee if they felt it would be appropriate to send a thank you letter to at least Nancy Hicks with the Journal Star and Leslie Reed with the Omaha World Herald thanking them for the great feature stories they did on the Quarter Design Program. The Committee thought this would be a good idea. Secretary Gale will proceed with this.

Other Business: Dr. Schuyler asked if the State Historical Society was planning to make a presentation to the Committee. Ms. Hambek stated that they were unable to make either the May or June meeting but was hoping the July meeting date would work for them. It was also noted that Tom Kasper with the Capitol may want to appear before the Committee to present information on the Capitol and the Sower.

Discussion was held with regard to whether or not the Committee would release the 3 to 5 design narratives prior to their being sent to the U.S. Mint. Mr. Bassett asked if Ms. Hambek would contact the U.S. Mint and ask for copies of what other states have submitted to give the Committee some idea of what the Mint would like to receive.

The question was raised as to whether or not any designs actually submitted would be put on the web site for public comment and/or vote. One Committee member stated he was in favor of this happening. This will be discussed further at the June 4th meeting.

Discussion was held with regard to whether or not the Committee wanted to ask for input from the public on a slogan or motto for the quarter. It was thought there may need to be some historical date or information put on the final design depending on the icons are chosen. The Committee was presently reluctant to start a new public campaign before knowing the final design choices.

Meeting Dates: Secretary Gale asked the Committee if they would be willing to do a two day meeting. He thought possibly the first day could be a work day where members would break up into subcommittees to review designs. The second day would be a full committee meeting. Members were agreeable to that. The dates chosen for upcoming meetings were: June 21st and June 22nd and July 12th and July 13th. The meeting would be scheduled to begin at 9:30 am each day. Members will be notified of the room location at a later date.

Members were encouraged to submit any ideas they had for quarter designs to Ms. Hambek and she could get them to Shawn for him to sketch prior to the next meeting.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Mr. Bassett made a motion adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Dr. Schuyler. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 12:17 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Hambek
Event Coordinator