



City Flag Selection Committee

Meeting Minutes

Friday, June 20, 2025

Time 10:00 a.m.

Location: Teams Meeting

The meeting began at 10:06 a.m.

Committee Members Present:

Russell Ford, Anne McEnerney Ogle, Rosalinda Mendoza, Lee Rafferty, Ty Stober

Committee Members Absent:

Naomi Axelrod, Zatera Griffin

Staff Present:

Laura Shepard, Tracie Ramirez

Welcome and introductions

Staff and committee members introduced themselves.

Laura stated that the committee is expected to meet four to five times and reviewed the composition and duties of the committee.

Flag Design Timeline

Laura reviewed the timeline. The deadline for submitting designs ended on June 14 with 138 submissions received. In July and August the committee will select finalists, and public feedback will be gathered. In September and October, the committee will select the flag and Council will adopt. Staff hope to have the new flag raised during the reopening of the Esther Short clock tower in November.

Laura informed the committee that she had already been in contact with Elmer's Flag to make the new flag. They will screen print flags for general use and hand sew the flags for ceremonial

Members

Rosalinda Mendoza
Chair

Name
Vice Chair/TBD

Mayor Anne McEnerney-Ogle
Councilor Ty Stober
Naomi Axelrod
Russell Ford
Zatera Griffin
Lee Rafferty

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use. She said that staff is considering creating a video highlighting the making of the new flag. Staff would also like to have the 10 finalists' flags made to display.

Overview of finalist selection meeting

Laura provided an overview of what to expect at the July 24 meeting. She explained staff will print all the designs and have them around the room for the committee to review. Ted Kaye from the North American Vexillology Association will be at the meeting to lead the committee in a hands-on activity to narrow down to 10 finalists.

Laura said that there may be elements of more than one submission that the committee likes and the Vexillology Association offered to help put those elements together, with input from the committee, to create the flag.

Lee suggested that staff possibly contact The Cave Gallery to involve some of the local fabric artists to create different pieces of art from the 10 finalists' designs.

Laura commented that her concern is that there may not be enough time for the artists to complete their work before the final design is voted on by Council. She requested that Lee set up an introduction to gallery owner.

Mayor Anne suggested the flags be displayed on the windows of City Hall during the Arts and Music Festival (July 21 – August 3).

Modify Entry Requirements

Laura informed the committee that she noticed while looking at some of the design submissions that not all the entry requirements were followed – no lettering or numbers, no seals or logos, simple design, use of only two or three basic colors, etc. She asked the committee if they would prefer to see all the designs or have staff remove those submissions that didn't meet the requirements.

It was a consensus from the committee that all the designs should be given consideration. There may be elements that the committee likes and can modify to meet the requirements.

Mayor Anne wanted to know why the word "Vancouver" shouldn't be on flag as it may be used during official City business.

Laura explained that the wording on a flag can be hard to read at a distance, and the flag should be reflective of the community as a whole – not representative of city government.

Documenting Our Work

Laura informed the committee that staff will be taking photos and video of the July 24 meeting as part of the larger historical archive package for the City and given to the Clark County Historical Society. Staff will also be sharing the process with the community via social media, video, newsletters and more.

Mayor Anne suggested the public feedback period be part of Vancouver's bi-centennial celebrations.

Ty asked if staff had a history of Vancouver's flags, including the Hudson's Bay Company flag, to share with the committee and public.

Laura stated that in her research into Vancouver's flag, she couldn't find any other flag for the City other than the current one, which was adopted in the 1990s. She stated that she will do some further research.

Mayor suggested that the any old flags also be displayed with the new designs so there can be a comparison.

Election of Chair and Vice Chair

Rosalinda was nominated as Chair. The committee unanimously agreed to elect a Vice Chair at the July 24 meeting, so the youth representatives have an opportunity to participate in the selection.

Discussion

Ty commented that the Salt Lake City flag is beautiful. He said the city recently adopted three new flags, keeping the same design elements, celebrating human rights - [Salt Lake City adopts four flags to represent residents, visitors | Mayor's Office](#)

Adjourned: 10:40 a.m.

Next Meeting

Thursday, July 24, 9:00-3:00 p.m.
City Hall, Aspen Room

Attachment: PowerPoint meeting slides

