

**TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY  
ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 8, 2012 MEETING**

The Arts Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 12, 2012, at Town Hall, 6401 East Lincoln Drive, in the small conference room. Committee members present: Chair Bets Manera, Georgann Byrd, Ellen Gerding, Bunny Gordon, Mary Hamway, Janie Russo and Staff Liaison Natalie Montenegrino. Committee members not present: Louise McCall.

The minutes of the September 12, 2012 meeting were approved as submitted.

Mary Hamway gave an update on the Bil Keane memorial. She made a presentation to the Town Council at the October 25 meeting. She wanted to make sure the Council was receptive to the memorial before any further time and money was spent on promoting this project. She asked the Council if the Town was willing to:

1. Allow the use of the Town's website for fundraising purposes;
2. Receive the bronze sculpture as a gift and as such maintain it in perpetuity;
3. Commit to holding a fundraising activities; and
4. Approve a resolution to accept the statue and allow it to be placed at Town Hall.

Ms. Hamway asked the Committee if they would help with the fundraising events, such as an ice cream social sponsored by Sugar Bowl. Ellen Gerding suggested contacting the Five Arts Group to get names of organizations that give art grants. The Committee felt there were many Paradise Valley residents who are art collectors who may be contributors.

Ms. Hamway stated that the plan was to install the sculpture on November 8, 2013, the anniversary of Bil Keane's death. She also stated that the Keane family (Jeff Keane and his brother) were prepared to approach other cities if the Town Council were not in favor of moving forward with this project. The Council said they were prepared to accept the conditions and gave Ms. Hamway and the Keane family the go ahead.

Chair Manera stated that Cindy Zimmerman is working on the Keane postage stamp. She asked everyone to send in a postcard asking the Post Office to honor Bil Keane with a Family Circus stamp.

The Committee critiqued the October 9 art opening. They all agreed that the event was very well attended and very well received. They said that the system in place works well and should not be changed. The Committee wanted to maintain the live entertainment of Carol Brecker and Beth Overholdt. They also wanted to make sure that next year they have sharp knives and scissors, colanders, a salad spinner, and 10-12 platters.

Chair Manera reviewed the assignments and there was no new duties to add to the existing list. She stated the cost of the reception was \$661.64. and would like to increase the budget to \$700.00.

The Committee next discussed future artists. Ms. Montenegrino stated that Louise McCall called her and gave her two names, Jean Adams and Michelle Parker. Chair Manera said that Ms. McCall also mentioned Janie Horn.

Ms. Montenegrino stated that Jean Adams came into Town Hall this week and when she asked her if she would be interested in exhibiting her works at Town Hall, she said that she did not have sufficient framed art for an exhibit. Mrs. Adams did say, however, that she has about 30 pieces that belonged to her father, Stan Ekman. Ms. Montenegrino had photos of the art of Stan Ekman.

Ms. Montenegrino stated that she had left a voice mail message for Michelle Parker but did not get a return call. She gave her contact information to Chair Manera for her to follow-up.

Other names mentioned were Dr. Richardson, who is the sculptor the Committee visited two years ago. Ms. Hamway stated Ron Berman was still a possibility. Agnese Udinotti was approached and declined. Janie Russo said she would contact Jerry Cox to ask him if he would be interested in showing his art to the Arts Committee in January. Other names mentioned were Jennifer Weinstein, Miriam Wechsler, and Cathy Duelly.

Ms. Montenegrino suggested contacting Terrance Thornton at the Paradise Valley Independent newspaper to ask him if he could put an article in the paper inviting Paradise Valley artists to display their art at Town Hall. Some of the artists are connected with local galleries and are not permitted to display their art elsewhere. The Committee agreed that this was a good idea.

Patsy Lowry invited the Committee to her home for lunch to thank them for the art opening. The Committee will visit her home on Wednesday, November 28 at 12:00 noon.

The next meeting was scheduled for January 17, 2013 at 2:00 p.m. Janie Horn will call Jerry Cox to ask him if this was a good time to visit his studio.

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.