

**TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY
ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF APRIL 12, 2016 MEETING**

The Arts Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. on Tuesday, April 12, 2016. The Committee met at Town Hall, 6401 East Lincoln Drive, in the Boardroom.

Committee members present: Chair Bunny Gordon, Carol Brecker, Georgann Byrd, Kathy Duley, Louise McCall, Mardelle Mikus, Janie Russo and Staff Liaison Natalie Montenegro. Laura Paquelet-Carpinelli and Council Liaison Mary Hamway did not attend this meeting. Guest: Former Mayor Ed Lowry.

Chair Gordon introduced former Mayor Ed Lowry. He presented several photographs of the Grand Canyon which were well received by the Committee members. He talked about capturing his adventures rafting down the Colorado River for 53 years in photographs such as the ones he brought today. He also has photos of Monument Valley and Canyon de Chelly. Chair Gordon thanked Mayor Lowry for coming today to show his photographs.

The minutes of the November 10, 2015 and February 9, 2016 meetings were approved as submitted.

Chair Gordon said she gave the attached PowerPoint presentation at the March 24 Town Council meeting. The presentation recaptures all the artists of the past and will be kept on file for future reference.

Chair Gordon said she received a note from Mayor Collins thanking the Committee for arranging the Kiva Elementary School art show. Although it was not well attended, the Committee felt it was a good show and Anne Warfel, the Kiva art teacher, worked hard to get it all together. The Committee said perhaps we can do better with getting media coverage for the next show.

Ms. Montenegro informed the Committee of her conversation with Juli Newman, the Executive Director/Principal of the Montessori Academy on Invergordon Road. Ms. Montenegro said she asked Ms. Newman if they have an art program and if they would be interested in presenting the student art next March. Ms. Newman said, "Yes, absolutely, very much interested." Ms. Montenegro showed Ms. Newman the student exhibit in the Community Room.

Ms. Byrd moved to have the Montessori Academy be the next school to exhibit the children's art in March 2017. Ms. Mikus seconded the motion which carried unanimously, 7-0. Chair Gordon signed the letter to Ms. Newman letting her know that the Committee approved the Montessori Academy for the 2017 school art program.

The Committee discussed and commented on the site visit to the home of Joe Sacco. Chair Gordon signed the letter confirming him as the 2017-2018 featured artist that Ms. Montenegro will mail to him.

The Committee discussed the photography of Ed Lowry. They thought it would be good to have his work for the 2018-2019 exhibit since the Grand Canyon will celebrate its 100th anniversary in 2019. Ms. Mikus moved approval of Ed Lowry as the 2018-2019 featured artist. Ms. Byrd seconded the motion which carried unanimously, 7-0.

The Committee discussed the artist plaque. Chair Gordon asked Ms. Brecker to contact Accurate Signs & Engraving to see if they can generate a plaque to display the 20 past artists and also have space for future artists. Chair Gordon said there is no rush on this assignment.

Chair Gordon stated that Golnaz McKellar did not respond to several attempts made to contact her. She asked Ms. Russo to speak about Lynn Bellino. Ms. Russo distributed photos of the art of Ms. Bellino. Chair Gordon said it is too early for a studio visit. She asked Ms. Russo to inform Ms. Bellino that since we have artists lined up for October 2017 (Joe Sacco), and October 2018 (Ed Lowry), she will be considered for October 2019 and a studio visit will be done at a later date.

Chair Gordon reviewed the Committee assignments for the October 11, 2016 art opening featuring Jack Peterson.

Ms. Montenegriano informed Committee members that Town Manager Kevin Burke will speak about the Agnese Udinotti matter at the April 14 Town Council study session. This item is on the agenda for 5:30 p.m. Committee members can attend if they wish to do so.

The next meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, September 13 at 1:00 p.m. at Town Hall. Chair Gordon said it is important that everyone attend since it is the time when the art opening envelopes will be stuffed and readied for mailing.

The meeting adjourned at 2:10 p.m.