

**TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY
ARTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF MARCH 7, 2017 MEETING**

The Arts Advisory Committee meeting was called to order at 1:35 p.m. on Tuesday, March 7, 2017. 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, Laura Paquelet-Carpinelli, Janie Russo, Council Liaison Scott Moore, and Staff Liaison Natalie Montenegro. Mardelle Mikus did not attend this meeting. Alexandra Moquay, a resident, was also present.

Chair Gordon introduced Scott Moore, the new council liaison. She also introduced Alexandra Moquay, a resident who applied for the vacancy on the Arts Committee.

Ms. Moquay gave a brief talk on why she would like to be a member of the Arts Committee. Chair Gordon invited members to ask questions of Ms. Moquay.

Ms. Moquay then asked each committee member what they liked best. Ms. Carpinelli said she liked the opening in October when the community comes together for a special event that honors a Town resident. Ms. Duley said that her favorite part is the school art program because it involves the Town's children and gets them interested in art. Ms. Brecker said that she likes volunteering her special services for the opening event – she makes the floral arrangement for the centerpiece and she is a member of the entertainment group. Ms. Russo said she likes visiting the art studio of potential artists, whether it's in their home or at an actual studio like Ed Mell's. Ms. Byrd said she agrees with Ms. Duley and enjoys the artwork from children at our local schools.

After Ms. Moquay left, Chair Gordon commented on the passing of Louise McCall. Each Committee member wanted to do something to remember Louise since she was a founding member and has served on the Arts Committee since 1998. They suggested ways that this could be done.

Ms. Montenegro said that the Town celebrates Arbor Day the first Thursday in November and that a tree is planted that day. In the past these trees have been dedicated to the memory of Town residents who have passed. Last year's tree was dedicated to former mayor Joan Lincoln. There is one for the Von Ammons, former mayor Joan Horne, George Adams who served as Planning Commissioner for 30 years, and Diana Balasz a resident journalist who honestly covered the Town for 30 years. Ms. Montenegro stated that with approval from Mayor Collins, the November 2017 tree could be dedicated to Louis McCall. The Committee agreed that this was a good way to honor Louise McCall.

Ms. Russo moved that a recommendation be made to Mayor and Council to dedicate the 2017 Arbor Day tree to honor Louise McCall. Ms. Carpinelli seconded the motion, which carried unanimously, 6-0. Ms. Brecker suggested a new type of palo verde tree that is thornless and has yellow blooms year round, since Louise was all about flowers.

The minutes of the October 18, 2016 meetings were approved as submitted.

Chair Gordon asked Council Member Moore if he has any ideas for future events. He suggested a spring art event to benefit a charity similar to the car show event. He envisioned it as a community event where artists can display their work and maybe even invite farmer's to bring their produce like a farmer's market. Food trucks and other vendors were suggested. The committee agreed to explore the proposal to hold an art fair event at a future meeting.

Chair Gordon updated Council Member Moore on the stained glass panels that the Town "saved" and donated to the Phoenix Zoo. She wanted to be sure to invite past Arts Committee members, including former Arts Committee Chair Gretchen Bevan and Council Member Mary Hamway. Ms. Montenegro said she will call the artist Bob Berg to see if he has any information.

The Committee discussed the six applicants to fill the two vacancies. Each member gave the names of their two top picks. The Committee agreed that since Colleen Steinberg was an artist, they would like to ask her if she would be interested in being the featured artist. They would like to invite Alexandra Moquay and Diana Georgelos to become members, and keep Barbara Terranova as a third choice in the event one of the ladies changed their mind.

Ms. Carpinelli moved to recommend for appointment Alexandra Moquay and Diana Georgelos. The motion was seconded by Ms. Brecker which carried unanimously, 6-0.

Ms. Montenegro said that the Montessori Academy will work on the art display the week of March 20 and that the school art opening will be at 4:00 p.m. on March 23. It was agreed that the next school will be Cherokee Elementary School and if they do not want to participate, then Phoenix Country Day School or Tesseract will be asked.

Ms. Montenegro said she received a package from Bobby Lee Krajnik who would to be considered for a future show. The Committee may also wish to approach Krista Eaton and Charles McCarver as potential featured artists.

Ms. Byrd nominated Janie Russo to serve as Chair of the Committee. Ms. Brecker seconded the motion. After discussion, the Committee voted unanimously 6-0, and made Ms. Russo the new Chair.

It was suggested that the Committee meet on April 25 at 1:30 p.m. The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.