

Welcome to the Arts, Culture and Quality of Life Forum

Saturday, July 21, 2018

Forum Moderator: Russell Fox

1. The introductory question will be asked of each candidate. (One minute)
2. Each of the candidates has preselected a question from the list below provided by the Forum Organizers. (Two minutes)
3. After all have answered their chosen question, each will be asked one additional question chosen by the Forum Organizers from this list. (One minute)

Your Forum Organizers for the Arts, Culture, and Quality of Life Forum are Russell Fox, Winifred Muench, Judy Reddington and Nancy Robb Dunst with gratitude to Patrick Schweiss and the Mary D. Fisher Theater.

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Intro Question: Have you had any personal or professional involvement in any arts discipline or institution?

Q1: As you see it, how do the performing & creative arts and culture play a role in community development, and specifically in Sedona's quality of life?

Q2: What is the role of arts and culture in your plans for Sedona's economic development and sustainability?

[It's an obvious understatement to say that Sedona has a major traffic problem with 'pass-through tourism' – Too many 'Come & Go' tourists, as opposed to 'Arrive & Stay' tourists who would be here long enough to significantly benefit Sedona's commercial & tax revenue funnels. The Sedona Chamber of Commerce & Tourism Bureau has now begun focusing on this with what they call 'sustainable tourism.'

With this in mind, for several years now, polling of Sedona's active arts community has verified the ongoing challenge of defining Sedona and its future. The challenge is: "How do we enlarge the Sedona we claim to be... 'A City Animated by the Arts' ...to become the Sedona we envision: 'An International Center for Arts Education, Performance and Engagement.']

Q3: As an elected City official, how would you suggest developing and supporting sustainable tourism based on the arts, culture and our area's nearly untapped Native American heritage?

Q4: Recognizing that involvement in the arts fosters creative thinking, self discipline and social skills needed to ensure a young person's future success, in what ways would you support Sedona's young people's access to the performing and creative arts?

[The budget of the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) has been cut once again. Their diminished funding of America's arts has been the death knell for many once vibrant arts associations and projects. Sedona's nonprofit arts organizations, like most, are community-based charities that specifically rely on donations from individual taxpayers for at least a quarter of their budgets on average. For the performing arts ticket sales and admissions generally account for only another quarter, leaving nearly half their budgets reliant on grants from supportive municipalities and foundations. The same is true for museums and fine arts galleries.]

Q5: What kinds of support would you favor to help support the arts in Sedona? for instance, possible tax breaks, reduced fees, artist-in-residence and student housing? How about encouraging the use of vacant, affordable building spaces and storefronts for 'pop up' arts, rehearsal, performance & even food exploration venues? And would you consider cultivating a relationship with the school district to improve SPAC's community utilization and commercial success?

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Record Candidate's Question Selections No. 1 & No. 2

Pete Conrad	_____	_____	Noelle Julian	_____	_____
Sandy Moriarty	_____	_____	Sam Tardio	_____	_____
Bill Chisolm	_____	_____	tony Tonsich	_____	_____
Brock Delinski	_____	_____	Mike Ward	_____	_____
Janice Howes Hudson	_____	_____	Jim Weis	_____	_____
Scott Jablow	_____	_____	Jessica Williamson	_____	_____

Biographical Information as provided by candidates

Listed and seated alphabetically according to office being sought

Pete Conrad - Candidate for Mayor of Sedona

- 61 Years Young, Married, Two Children
- Wife Sue, Fine Artist, Graduate Bachelor of Arts Degree, Columbia College
- Sedona Resident Over 6 years.
- Self Employed Business Consultant 21 Years
- Business Professional 35 Years
- Owned “The Art Garden Gallery” in Lake Forest, IL. (Fine Art Gallery)

Sandy Moriarty - Candidate for Mayor of Sedona

I was born & raised in Seattle, Washington and moved to Sedona in January 1972. I’m a founder of Sedona Recycles, Sedona Winefest, and the City of Sedona. I’m an accountant, now self-employed, after working for a CPA firm for 31 years, and have served as Mayor of Sedona since November of 2014.

Tony Tonsich - Candidate for Mayor of Sedona

27 Year Resident of Sedona, Bachelors of Science in Business Administration, Post graduate Study in Public Administration, President, Vice President and owner of various companies. President of three homeowners Associations. Retired. No tourist connections. My daughter a successful lawyer and law professor grew up in Sedona.

Bill Chisolm - Candidate for City Council, 4 year term

Bill Chisolm – retired technology executive, part-time K-12 substitute teacher. I served 10 years in the USMC and 25 years in corporate America where fiscally accountable annually for \$100M expense, \$50M capital, 120 people. Elected officer of our Marine Corps League detachment & recent graduate of the Sedona Citizens Academy.

Brock Delinski - Candidate for City Council, 4 year term

Making a bold move in 2012 Brock Delinski quit his job to ride his bike across the United States. After two years of perpetual travel Brock and his wife moved to Sedona to start businesses and set down roots. Now he is on a mission to improve Sedona's environmental and cultural sustainability.

Janice Howes Hudson - Candidate for City Council, 4 year term

- Resident since 2012
- 20-year government career, \$1.4 B budgets, 5000 staff
- Health care CEO; 3 hospitals
- BEd, MBA, certifications in mediation/negotiation, clinical counseling
- Volunteer: Arizona Crisis Team. Last 4 years on city's Personnel Board and Citizen Budget Work Group
- Member of League of Women Voters; Sedona Women

Scott Jablow - Candidate for City Council, 4 year term

- 31 years in law enforcement
- Appointed to the Sedona Personnel Board
- Appointed to the Sedona Planning & Zoning Commission.
- Elected to the Sedona Fire Board.
- In 2014 I ran a successful campaign for the Sedona City Council where I have been very engaged in helping your city.

Noelle Julian - Candidate for City Council, 4 year term

- Graduate of William and Mary - degree in International Relations - Sustainable Development, minor in Economics
- Graduate of The Institute of Documentary Filmmaking at GWU and has IMDB credit
- 10 years in software sales & previous owner of a vintage clothing business
- Mother is a Russian Icon Painter

Sam Tardio - Candidate for City Council, 4 year term

Sam Tardio has been a resident since 1995. Moving was a life changer for Sam; it even sparked an interest in singing which he did for nearly 15 years at charity events in Phoenix as well as with the Sedona Showstoppers. Now Sedona's future is his only concern and commitment.

Jim Weis - Candidate for City Council, 4 year term

I have lived in Sedona over 20 years.

I did Red Rock Fantasy for years. Volunteered for Main Street then went to volunteer Executive Assistant. I also made wreaths for the Library for their Wreath Festival that they sold to raise money for the Library.

Mike Ward - Candidate for City Council, 2 year term

I volunteered for the forest service, the YCSO Verde Search and Rescue Posse serving in multiple leadership positions in both organizations as well as the city and KSB. I served on the Sedona City Council from 2010 to 2014. I believe we must restore the balance between our resident and business communities.

Jessica Williamson - Candidate for City Council, 2 year term

- Lived in West Sedona for 15 years
- Served on Sedona Housing Commission
- Served 4 years on City Council, 2012-2016
- Appointed to vacancy created by resignation of Joe Vernier in August 2018
- Retired from NYC Department of Design and Construction as the Director of Department Affairs

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OPINION POLL

Comment and Review. (For the audience) Use other side as needed.

Many factors will contribute to your voting decisions. Perhaps support of culture and the arts may be among them.

Based on what you now know and have heard today, which candidates are likely to get your vote?

Candidate(s) _____

Rate the importance of support for the arts in your decision. [Please ✓]

1____ 2____ 3____ 4____ 5____
Not Important *Very Important*