

Volunteer Opportunities

TOWN OF PARADISE VALLEY COMMITTEE VOLUNTEER APPLICATION FORM

Thank you for your interest in volunteering with the Town.

Applications have been reopened for this year's appointment cycle and the Town is accepting applications for all committees, commissions, and boards. The deadline to be considered for appointment is Friday, March 20, 2026.

Please select which committee or committees you are interested in being considered for appointment.*

- Advisory Committee on Public Safety
- Board of Adjustment
- Hillside Building Committee
- Historical Advisory Committee
- PV Mountain Preserve Trust
- PV Arts Board
- Planning Commission
- Personnel Appeals Board
- Public Safety Personnel Retirement Board

Please provide the following background information.

Name*	Jennifer Bryant Nagel, MFA PhD
Address*	[REDACTED]
Email*	[REDACTED]
Telephone Number	[REDACTED]
Employer	Brightmont Academy
Occupation	Educator
Number of years as PV resident	6

Professional experience highlights

As a English Department Chair for Rancho Solano Preparatory School in Scottsdale, I established the school's first writing center, which I organized and ran. I also created several new courses including an interdisciplinary American Studies course and a sophomore class focused on British literary history.

As a lecturer for Northern Arizona University, I created a number of new courses, including a graduate course on African American literature focused on neo-slave narratives and an undergraduate course on southern gothic literature.

Also during my time at NAU, I developed and secured funding for the Bryant Nagel Lecture Series, hosted by the English Department.

As a co-owner of two Sedona fine art galleries from 2017-2020, I organized exhibitions, demonstrations, lectures, and other events that helped enrich the community.

What experience do you think qualifies you to be a committee member?

I have been an active volunteer for the Historical Advisory Committee since 2021, spearheading an effort to develop and professionalize the town's archive. In this position, I have learned about the town's history, vision, and values. This prepares me well to weigh in on decisions that affect the town's future.

Furthermore, my extensive education and years of teaching have prepared me to read, analyze, and interpret complex texts, and to consider complicated issues using a high level of critical thinking. I have strong skills in communication, both written and oral, as well as in negotiation and problem-solving.

Community Activities

Member, Town of Paradise Valley Historical Advisory Committee
Member, Town of Paradise Valley Women's Association

Information on each of the committees including summaries, annual reports, and meeting minutes are located on the [Boards & Commissions page](#).

[Information on Committees](#)

Have you familiarized yourself with the duties of the committee(s) in which you are interested?*

Yes

No

Attach resume and cover letter
[Bryant Nagel Resume 2026.docx](#)

* indicates required fields.

[Your Name]
Jennifer Bryant Nagel
[REDACTED]
Paradise Valley AZ 85253

8 March 2026

Dear Council Members,

I want to express my strong interest in the volunteer position for the Town of Paradise Valley's Planning Commission. I have been personally invested in the Town since my parents moved here in 2016; I and my family relocated from Sedona in 2020. As a trained public historian, I have been a volunteer for the Historical Advisory Committee since 2021, and I am particularly proud of my continuing efforts to professionalize the town's archives. While I am enormously grateful for the opportunity to help preserve the town's heritage, I am excited about the chance to participate in decisions that help shape the town's future.

With a master's degree in fine arts, a doctoral degree in English literature and textual theory, and years of experience working in undergraduate, graduate, and secondary education, I am trained in reading and interpreting complex texts, thinking critically about multifaceted issues, recognizing the values of diverse perspectives, and negotiating among competing interests. I have excellent written and oral communication skills, and am trained in active listening, mediation, and conflict resolution.

I take enormous pride in being a resident of the Town of Paradise Valley, and I am confident I have the skills and experience to be of greater service to the Town. I appreciate your consideration and am happy to provide any additional information you may need.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Bryant Nagel, MFA PhD

JENNIFER BRYANT NAGEL

WRITER, EDUCATOR, PUBLIC HISTORIAN

CONTACT



SKILLS

Leadership
Collaboration
Effective Communication
Differentiated Instruction
Active Listening
Classroom Technology Use
Critical Thinking

EDUCATION

University of Washington
PhD in English Literature,
With honors

University of Notre Dame
MFA in Poetry

Reed College
BA in English,
Phi Beta Kappa

PROFILE

I am an innovative, experienced educator proficient in offering differentiated, individualized classroom instruction in a range of humanities subjects for secondary, post-secondary, and graduate classes.

EXPERIENCE

Humanities Teacher

Brightmont Academy

2025-Present

In this role, I teach one-on-one instruction to high school students on a range of subjects including English, Composition, American Government, and History.

Writing Center Director and English Department Chair, History, English, Humanities, and Government Teacher

Rancho Solano Preparatory School

2021-2025

In this role, I demonstrated subject mastery across a range of disciplines, and evidence strong pedagogical awareness through designing and teaching courses.

Volunteer Archivist and Public Historian

Town of Paradise Valley, AZ

2021-Present

In this role, I act as a public history advisor to the Town Council of the Town of Paradise Valley, considering matters including archiving, historic property preservation and recognition, and the town's oral history project.

Lecturer, English

Northern Arizona University

2017-2021

I designed and taught a range of humanities, literature, critical theory, and creative writing courses for undergraduate and graduate students, both in person and online.

Co-Owner

Lanning and Turquoise Tortoise Fine Art Galleries, Sedona AZ

2017-2020