

## **VFP Board Candidate Questionnaire**

**Please briefly describe your reason for joining the Board of Directors and what you hope to bring to the organization?**

I feel that my experience as president of a dynamic VFP chapter for five years can bring that success to the table.

**Veterans For Peace has a hard time retaining members, what do you think VFP could do differently to keep members who join the organization?**

On a micro level, checking with members, encourage and support their ideas. Sometimes just showing appreciation for showing up is helpful. People need to know they count for something.

**How do you envision helping VFP expand its membership, particularly in terms of Veterans of recent wars, women veterans, and BIPOC Veterans?**

We are on the right track already, but need to bring imagination to the mix. That's right in my wheelhouse. I dream big and work like hell to achieve those dreams.

**How do you envision ensuring that VFP is a safe space for our members? VFP passed a Code of Conduct in 2018 and 2019, but this is only a first step. What else can we do?**

We have a code of conduct, but we need to remind chapters to read that before each meeting.

**What are your thoughts about VFP's Peace At Home, Peace Abroad campaign?**

I like to be holistic in whatever task I take on. Respect the temple, respect the earth directly beneath your feet and connect that in peace to the world. Peace at home, peace abroad!

**The VFP Board of Directors is striving to make directorship as accessible as possible. We conduct monthly zoom meetings, and when we meet in person VFP can and will help subsidize travel costs to ensure financial needs are not a barrier. For members who have difficulty traveling for any reason (e.g., due to work or family commitments), it is possible to attend in-person meetings by Zoom as well (which we have been doing through lockdown anyway). Will you have the time and availability to be an active member of the Board of Directors, join committees, and**

**help with the duties and responsibilities of board members?**

I am already doing that and even before zoom, I was reaching out via email and planning in person visits.

**What do you do, or did you do if retired, for a living?**

I drove a produce truck all over the state of Minnesota. I am now a retired Teamster praying that my pension fund doesn't go belly up!

**Have you served on any non-profit boards before?**

Other than my time as Vice-President of Chapter 27 for five years, I was active on my Neighborhood Association Board and served as Vice-President. I also wrote a column in the Neighborhood newspaper for twenty years.

**If so, what board committee(s) were you on?**

Membership

**Has your work or non-profit board experience included any responsibilities in any of these areas?**

Human resource/personnel: My whole reason to be involved is Human Resources!

Legal:

Development/fundraising:

Accounting/financial management:

**When was your military service?**

Four long years in the Navy. 1966-1970 Off the coast of 'Nam for five months on destroyer, firing bombs at the North Vietnam coast.

**Where do you live?** South Minneapolis

**Do you belong to any racial or ethnic minority?**

No

**Are you a member of a VFP chapter, National Project, Working Group, or other entity?**

I am still active in my local chapter, in the streets in the meetings, etc.

**Please briefly describe any other organizing experience within VFP or the broader peace and social justice community.**

I have proudly served as Vice-President after my appointment by President Kinney. Being Vice-President has given me a greater ability to reach out to our chapters around the world.