

Veterans For Peace Board Candidate Questionnaire

- 1 Briefly describe your reason for joining the Board of Directors and what you hope to bring to the organization.

From what I can tell Veterans for Peace is uniquely situated and qualified to respond to the unusual demands for change and growth placed on virtually every organization, as well as each individual, by the pandemic and the manifest changes it requires for our mutual survival.

It is not an exaggeration to suggest that VFP has a message regarding the cost of war that is critical to the welfare of every citizen of the planet.

More than any political party or nation state VFP has a uniquely legitimate platform to carry that message forward.

- 2 Veterans for Peace has had a hard time retaining members. What do you think VFP could do differently to keep members who join the organization?

Younger veterans grew up in different world. Many of the battles we fought are now taken for granted. We would be well served to consider and welcome a paradigm that reflects those changes.

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

Be willing to embrace veterans carrying the crushing burden of trying to live with "blood on their hands" in a culture that denies death.

Please refer to #2

- 4 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?

Avoid activities that require voting that tends to automatically split the organization into at least two factions.

Develop effective mediation processes.

Employ "consensus based decision making" wherever possible

- 5 What are your thoughts about VFP's Peace at Home, Peace Abroad campaign?

Very welcome and long overdue.

- 6 The VFP Board of Directors is striving to make directorship as accessible as possible. We conduct monthly zoom meetings, and when we need to 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 it is possible to attend in-person meetings by Zoom as well. Will you have the time and availability to an active member of the Board of Directors, join committees, and help with the duties and responsibilities of board members?

I have made the commitment prior to submitting my application. As a self-employed writer/author, my time is my own, except of course for my spouse and family.

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

I was employed as a probation officer of the San Luis Obispo County Superior Court for thirty-seven years.

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

Yes

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

The body is respectfully requested to refer to application attached.

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

Human resource/personnel

Legal

Development/fundraising

Accounting/financial management

All the above including Grant Writing and Administration

- 11 When was your military service?

1966-1970

- 12 Where do you live?

County of San Luis Obispo

- 13 Do you belong to any racial or ethnic minority?

Cultural Iroquois.

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

No

- 15 Please briefly describe any other organizing experience with VFP or the broader peace and social justice community.

Founding member of San Luis Obispo County Domestic Violence Task Force and Domestic Violence Advisory Council

Coordinator, San Luis Obispo County Needs Assessment of local Vietnam veterans (Live subject research project with support from the county Veteran's Service Office as well as private sector support from Genentech Corp.)

Founding member, San Luis Obispo County Vietnam Veterans of America

President, Child Abuse Prevention Council procuring grants for outreach programs Spanish-Speaking for victims of Domestic Violence

Trainer/educator for California Attorney General's Office in the effects of violence on the child's developing brain

Coordinator/facilitator for San Luis Obispo Jail Substance Abuse Treatment Program

Current member, San Luis Obispo County Anti-trafficking Task Force