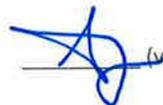


Agenda Report Reviewed by:
City Manager: 

CITY OF SEBASTOPOL
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA ITEM

Meeting Date: March 17, 2020
To: Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers
From: Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director 
Subject: Annual Peace Wall Honorees
Recommendation: Accept Nominations
Funding: Currently Budgeted: _____ Yes _____ No X N/A

Account Code/Costs authorized in City Approved Budget  (verified by Administrative Services Department)

BACKGROUND/DISCUSSION:

The Sebastopol Living Peace Wall is located on City property, at the southeast corner of McKinley Avenue and Petaluma Avenue. The Peace Wall is intended to honor efforts to promote peace.

As approved by the City Council, the persons proposed to be honored on the Peace Wall are required to be reviewed by the City Council, since the Wall is located on public property.

The Sebastopol Living Peace Wall Selection Committee was convened on February 10, 2020. The committee members present were: Michael Gillotti, Chairman, Richard Retecki Vice Chairman, Paul Robbins from the Redwood Friends group, Rev. Judith Stone, Ret., Alice Waco from the Sonoma County Peace and Justice Center. After a thorough review and discussion of the nominees, the following four persons were selected to be honored for the year 2020:

- Fred Ptucha
- Adrienne Lauby
- Mary Moore
- Joan Baez

Upon Council approval their names will be inscribed onto the Living Peace Wall and added to the roll of honorees on the Peace Wall web site, www.sebastopolivingpeacewall.com. The attached submittal provides information about each proposed honoree.

ATTACHMENTS:

Proposed Peace Wall Honorees

2020 PEACE WALL NOMINEES - BIOGRAPHIES

1. FRED PTUCHA

Fred Ptucha is a Vietnam combat veteran who, after experiencing the horrors of war, later dedicated himself to working for peace. Among his many efforts to promote peace are: He founded and was president of the Sonoma County Veterans for Peace, Chapter 71; brought the Vietnam Memorial replica to SRJC; led the building of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Trail; and for 38 years served on the Advisory Board of the Sonoma County Peace and Justice Center.

In recent years Fred has co-founded Climbers for Peace. He has personally led over 10 expeditions, including to Elbrus in Russia, Olympus in Greece, and even Iran. All the expeditions are designed to promote peace between the people of these mountain countries and the United States. You might call it peace through personal contact.

Finally, Fred has returned to Vietnam twice to work on humanitarian projects with Veterans Vietnam Restoration Project and has helped build 10 homes for disabled Viet Cong as well as a school.

2. ADRIENNE LAUBY

A lifelong peace activist, in recent years she has focused on the issue of homelessness and disability rights. She co-produces "Pushing Limits", a radio program about disabilities on KPFA in Berkeley and works with "Homeless Action" a Sonoma County advocacy group of people with disabilities, religious congregants, homeless people, service providers and caring individuals. In addition, she organizes regular public dialogs on racism as part of the organizing committee of Sonoma County Racial Justice Allies.

3. MARY MOORE

Mary Moore was a co-founder of the Peace and Justice Center of Sonoma County and was instrumental in the word "justice" being included in it's name, arguing that there can't be a lasting peace without justice. Her activism started in San Luis Obispo where she joined the Abalone Alliance. The group opposed the Diablo Canyon Nuclear Plant based on the high risk nuclear power posed to the surrounding communities.

She is best known for her work in exposing the power elites that gathered every year in Bohemian Grove, leading demonstrations outside the encampment year after year. Mary also has worked for many years to combat racism and to promote civil rights.

4. JOAN BAEZ

Joan Baez has a long history of using her beautiful music and fame to promote the cause of peace and justice. At a time when it was neither safe nor fashionable, Joan put herself on the line countless of times, as her life's work was mirrored in her music. She sang about freedom and Civil Rights everywhere, from the backs of flatbed trucks in Mississippi to the steps of the Lincoln Memorial at Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King's March on Washington in 1963. In 1964 she co-founded the Institute For The Study Of Nonviolence near her home in Carmel Valley, and in 1966, she stood in the fields alongside Cesar Chavez and migrant farm workers.