Form Name	Agreement	Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce	List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I would like to have input into the project.	I live here. I think I am good at creating contact with others. I taught school for years and hosted 14 foreign students successfully.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I am a life long resident of Buncombe County and I work as an architect in Asheville. The monument has been a part of our community as long as I can remember. It is my understanding that Mr. Pack gave land to establish a public square for the residents of Asheville and Buncombe County in perpetuity. He paid for most of the monument construction but is was dedicated to Vance, his friend, with little fanfare. In my opinion Pack, an abolitionist, was more concerned with creating a proper public square with a fitting monument, an obelisk, that mimicked the monument in our nations capital. As an architect I believe the monument should stay but it can be repurposed to symbolize our commitment to the citizens of our city and county rather than a former governor. If chosen to serve on the committee I would hope to find a way to repurposed the monument while preserving it place in our square.	I am an architect and a former member of the Buncombe County Planning Board. My office is 2 blocks from the Monument. I also have a background in participatory design solutions
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have been involved in a few organizations with a focus on marketing, graphics and organization. I have been an activist involved in protests in Memphis, Tennessee concerning privatization of the jails and was part of a group that affected change concerning the court system and juvenile court system, bringing in the Justice Department to make those changes. I work with various American Indigenous peoples on occasion concerning their plights. I was a volunteer at Helpmate in Asheville as part of a domestic violence survivors group and I understand what it means to raise a voice for those who are struggling to have a voice. I grew up in Asheville and saw the monument everyday, knowing its history; I recognize the negative effect it has had for years concerning Asheville African American population. My children are multicultural, with Cherokee (Tsalagi), European ("white") and African American heritage, and I do not I want my 9-year-old to grow up seeing the edifice as it is. Part of my family is African American.	As I stated before, I have organizational skills, the ability to create forms, graphics, public affairs skills and I was a broadcast journalist in the military. My older sister is a videographer and I can make her available for any video needed, free of charge. I am good at organizing people.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am of mixed cultural background and have lived in Asheville for 8 years now (just outside of city limits 28805). I'd like to see a monument created by a small team of artists including primarily African American, Cherokee (the original owners of this land we reside in), Caucasian, and Asian. Of Cherokee Asian and Caucasian descent myself, with family members who are African American and as a woman who has studied dance in Africa for 4 Years, on the Slave Coast of Ghana specifically, I feel I have a special connection to The 4 Directions, what native peoples call the four primary colors of race (the Medicine Wheel is red white yellow and black to represent the world's colors). I would like to see a balanced monument that equally and fairly represents all the people of Asheville while honoring those who are struggling right now from poverty, racism, and disconnection from their heritage. I realize this movement to remove the monument is focused on highlighting black people and I think we should be focusing on a result	•I am a brown-skinned self made female entrepreneur •I am author of 4 books, creator of an international movement with 100,000s in our diverse community, podcaster, youtuber, public speaker •mother of 5 small children (invested in the future of our local town) •homeowner •BBA business strategy, MA psychology, background in African dance and anthropological studies in Ghana •multi-racial, mixed family •I have stood in the door where the slaves were shipped by their African counterparts to America. I have a very unique perspective on slavery having been educated by the Ghanaian people of the "Slave Coast" •supporter of many local non profits - giving back is what our family believes will help disenfranchised peoples •I am an esteemed leader in the NATURAL PARENTING and FEMALE ENTREPRENEUR movements •I am adept at communications, grassroots marketing, and bringing
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I would like to see the obelisk stay in its current location. but with all plaques and side panels removed, and to have it rededicated. This could be for any number of causes that would better reflect the diversity of Asheville. Someone other than myself, suggested that it be rededicated to the dead soldiers from Buncombe County, who have served in all wars (Revolutionary - Iraq War), or it could be some kind of Unity monument, or to Black Lives Matter- or for some other purpose. The obelisk was designed by local architect, Richard Sharp Smith, and has architectural significance as such. It has served as the center of Asheville for over 120 years, but there is no reason that it could not be rededicated to represent something which all the community could see as a positive, or triumph over adversity rather than to a flawed man. I would feel quite differently about its preservation if it was a statue of Vance himself.	I was born in the county, and my family has been here since before Buncombe County existed. Though we lived away from here for 36 years, we have been back in Buncombe County for the past 9 years. I serve on the board of the Old Buncombe County Genealogical Society, and am heavily involved in the collection, and transcription of local records for the Society, as it's Projects Committee Chairman. I feel that living away from Asheville for a number of years, has given me, a broader understanding of the problem.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As an artist, educator, and Asheville citizen committed to building an anti- racist future I believe we need to rethink how our monuments and public art represent our community. I think monuments and public art are powerful ways to communicate values. The Vance monument signals to locals and visitors alike that Asheville is either sympathetic to the Lost Cause or is choosing to turn a blind eye to the realities of systemic racism. I believe we can do better. We should have public art and monuments that reflect the current values of our entire community and are honest about the past. I look forward to helping imagine how to transform t Vance monument into a symbol of equity and inclusion, rather than a symbol of ignorance and racism.	-My work as an artist (for over 10 years) focuses on racism, whiteness and the performance of identity. -In December of 2019 I created a performance art piece for the Asheville Art Museum that explored the legacy of Zebulon Vance and the legacy of whiteness is Asheville. -I am committed to anti-raciest work including participating in Building Bridges, and volunteering with the Community Remembrance Project. -I have worked with various non- profits to organize community art projects and programs.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a Black person, I remember moving to NC in 5th grade. I moved from NY, but had only lived there temporarily and was raised in Florida until then. The school was a predominately white school. After about a week, my classmates had started wearing TONS of confederate flag symbols and stickers on everything. I remember being so hurt and uncomfortable with it, but I was told it was because I was a "Yankee". However, I wasn't from NY and I knew why they did it. I skipped the DC trip because my parents didn't think it safe enough for me to go alone or with a parent. I do not want anyone else to feel that hurt and confusion by seeing the Confederacy glorified.	I have a passion for social justice which I have studied extensively. In the Spring of this year, I was a co facilitator for Building Bridges and hope to do it again once everything is safe.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am student of history, and in particular, Asheville's history, including the history of its African- American community. What happens at the Vance Monument site will have historical ramifications that will outlive us all, and I would like to help shape that history.	For 14 years, I served on the board of the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County, including two terms each as president and treasurer. Over that time, I developed extensive experience and education in historic preservation, and in particular, the unique built environment of this city and county. Through the PSABC, I advocated for the preservation of endangered historic properties throughout the county, including through tax credit programs and listing on the National Register and/or local historic designation. I also live and work in the historic neighborhood of Montford, which has led to numerous interactions with the local Historic Resources Commission, whose duty it is to safeguard those resources. Over that same period of time, I have worked with and volunteered for local organizations dedicated to racial equity, inclusion and healing, including the Stop The Violence Coalition, the Racial Justice Coalition, the Burton Street Community Center, Faith 4 Justice, Just Us, the Buncombe County Re-
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I think it is critical that we eliminate anything glorifying proponents of racism and slavery.	None.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I think it should be repurposed. I would like to see the community come together to use the monument as a unifying force instead of a division. I would like the monument to stand for Asheville - not for anyones race, color, nationality. It was one of the first things I saw when I moved to Asheville 32 years ago. I have taken family and friends downtown to show them points of interest, among them the monument.	I work for the NCDOT and understand that travel, out of state visitors, are very important and the tax revenue they bring to the area. I also work a 2nd job in which I talk to alot of visitors, right now, people don't want to be downtown. I have no problem speaking with others, interacting or saying what I believe.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have a lifelong interest in Civil War history and the civil rights movement. I do believe that sensitivity towards Blacks has been overlooked by the installation of such monuments .I also feel the sensitivities of the majority of Buncombe County residents is also overlooked as so many are not decedents of those who fought for the Confederacy. Additionally, it should be remember that outside of Asheville, the majority of Buncombe County residents voted against secession.	I served on the board of The National Association of Theaters Owners (NATO)and chair the task force that worked with the Hollywood studios to develop the standards for digital cinema. While the goal of that task force was quite different from the VMTF, we did deal with opposing viewpoints, but successfully work through those.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I'm interested in serving on this task force because I want to do my part in addressing the harmful realities of our state's past by creating a future where people of all backgrounds and cultures feel comfortable in Asheville. I grew up in the shadow of this monument, as my dad's office was on Pack Square, and for a long time have been troubled by the fact our city has a large obelisk commemorating North Carolina's confederate governor during the Civil War. Removing Governor Vance from history is something that is not feasible and doesn't make sense. What is feasible, however, is removing one-sided statues built to commemorate oppression and a constant reminder that Asheville was originally on the wrong side of a war still being fought today.	I achieved a degree in history from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill with a special emphasis on state history. During that time I took courses regarding North Carolina's history, and to a greater extent, the history of the southern United States. Moreover, I currently work in the private sector as a senior market research analyst. I am well-versed in gathering data, researching ideas, conducting focus groups, and developing questionnaires; all of which will be important to efficiently acquire public dialogue and produce a final recommendation in the three- month period.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I am interested in preserving history of the country that gave me refuge 30 years ago- no matter if it's bad or good.	Being from former Soviet Union I seen firsthand what can eraising of history do to the country.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	First I am an African American woman. Though my ancestors did not experience slavery on the mainland, the Spanish were some of the worst slavers for people brought to and bred in the islands. I'm a community activist keenly aware of the harm and pain the presence of confederate memorial, statues and imagery have caused. These items were purposely placed in an attempt to remind Black people in particular that white people felt themselves innately superior to them and all other races. It is a constant irritant on top of how precarious exisitng while Black in America can be; it chronically reminds us of our oppression and the suffering heaped on our people. I believe my background in social justice work and my experience of directly confronting a government sanctioned parade in a local town about condoning confederate flags inclusion, and the hostile attention it brought me, has given me great insight into the thinking of supporters of everything confederate. My experience serving on various	Sharing highlights of some of the experiences and work that I've done since arriving in Asheville, but there is lots more: *Beloved Asheville where I serve as the Director of Equity & Community Engagement - grassroot organizing around foood insecurity, affordable housing, the unhoused, work centered in deep conversation with the community we are privileged to serve and resource *Member of the Buncombe Community Remembrance Project - registered with the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) we are currently developing plans that will bring and place the monument to remember those lynched in Buncombe County - marketing, logistics, education, youth programs and more are a part of how it will be rolled out *Co-chair of the Racial Justice Coaliton - work around police accountability in use-of-force, helped bring about

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	First I am an African American woman. Though my ancestors did not experince slavery on the mainland, the Spanish were some of the worst slavers for people brought to and bred in the islands. I'm a community activist keenly aware of the harm and pain the presence of confederate memorial, statues and imagery have caused. These items were purposely placed in an attempt to remind Black people in particular that white people felt themselves innately superior to them and all other races. It is a constant irritant on top of how precarious exisitng while Black in America can be; it chronically reminds us of our oppression and the suffering heaped on our people. I believe my background in social justice work and my experience of directly confronting a government sanctioned parade in a local town about condoning confederate flags inclusion, and the hostile attention it brought me, has given me great insight into the thinking of supporters of everything confederate. My experience serving on various city tasks force, committees and non- profit boards should serve me and the task at hand well.	Sharing highlights of some of the experiences and work that I've done since arriving in Asheville, but there is lots more: *Beloved Asheville where I serve as the Director of Equity & Community Engagement - grassroot organizing around foood insecurity, affordable housing, the unhoused, work centered in deep conversation with the community we are privileged to serve and resource *Member of the Buncombe Community Remembrance Project - registered with the Equal Justice Initiative (EJI) we are currently developing plans that will bring and place the monument to remember those lynched in Buncombe County - marketing, logistics, education, youth programs and more are a part of how it will be rolled out *Co-chair of the Racial Justice Coaliton - work around police accountability in use-of-force, helped bring about change in policy around the same, and a member of the team and committee of the NAACP that worked for and had Written Consent passed *Former President of the Asheville Buncombe County - wide array of
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a multi-generation native of Asheville/Buncombe County and small business owner/entrepreneur since 1993 ,I would like to be part of a meaningful effort to keep our City and County a beautiful, vibrant, thriving, and safe place for all of our citizens as well as our visitors and guests. Our mountain heritage has always been welcoming and inclusive to new residents and visitors, and elements whether ideas, objects, or activities that work against our heritage need to be examined, discussed and changed if needed. I have been raised in our proud mountain heritage, and voices that represent that heritage should be heard in the discussion about change.	I have worked with people of all ages, racial/ethnic backgrounds, and socioeconomic levels in my business and professional career. My experience includes: Current President of the Vetust Study Club, agroup that has, for decades, charitably funded efforts to conserve, preserve, and restore historic properties and structures without political, racial or religious bias; Current Board member and immediate past Board Secretary of Preservation Society of Asheville Buncombe County; Previous Board Advisory or Board Member of the following: SBTDC, AB Tech Small Business Incubator, Minority Enterprise Development Week, Mountain Biz Works, Advantage West, Health Partners, and AVISTA Business Development Corporation. I facilitated the formation of Business Healthcare Roundtable under the auspices of the Asheville Chamber of Commerce
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I'm someone who is passonate about history and understanding it's importance either positive or negative for future generations. I value the importance for these monuments as an everyday reminder of the past. People are less likely to pick up a book so these monements are important when captioned correctly. This issue is important to me as I have two school aged sons that I am raising and would like to leave a world where history isn't filtered or censored. Furthermore, the better clarify, the above Yes or No compound question, a solution shouldn't be one or the other. I am not apposed to erecting African-American monuments at all, but believe it should not be one or the other.	I'm a former Corporate Vice President of Information Systems for a multinational corporation well versed in ushering in changes to cultures all over the world. I've been deeply connected to the Black community all my life as well as attending a historically black college in Florida A & M.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a lifetime resident of Asheville/Buncombe County and the husband of an African-American teacher in Asheville City Schools, I have long considered the Vance monument to be a painful reminder of both historical and systemic racism, hated and white supremacy,	I have worked in Community Outreach at a local non-profit for the last 13 years. I currently sit on the Human Relations Commission for the City of Asheville. I have successfully worked on the boards of NCAAN ncaan.org and Loving Food Resources lovingfood.org
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Asheville has a unique past, present and, I believe, a bright and unique future. George Willis Pack came to Asheville in 1884. He instituted paved roads and sidewalks, electric lighting in the town square, gifted property for three public parks, gifted the first Asheville Library building, gifted land to establish Mission Hospital and saw to it that all of these were named for organizations or people other than himself. The obelisk that he funded both personally and through public donations, was designed by Richard Sharp Smith to and subsequently gifted to our community. It was and is now located at our city's crossroads of trade and the site of the first freed slave and free black voter registration, an area that he envisioned being our communities central gathering place. He dedicated the monument to a friend with whom he had substantially opposing views. Why? By engaging others in the naming, he built consensus and community. George W. Pack was a leader and visionary and substantially conforms to our current values. The same cannot be said for Zebulon Baird Vance.	I retired from my independent financial planning practice after 40 years of self employment in 2010. My clients ranged from hourly workers to business owners. In 2004 a friend/ client and I founded a Community Leadership Academy through a community discussion and collaboration that helped us define our purpose, initial curriculum, course outline, instructors and initial and sustained foundation funding . Our Academy provides community servant leadership education and skills training to businesses and for profit organizations and individuals. Scholarships have always been available for students who would not otherwise have access to our programs. Now under the leadership of a full time director, the organization reaches over 1,000 students per year and has an annual budget exceeding $250,000. I have served for the past eight yeas as President of a 43 unit condominium community in the center of our downtown.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I believe that a cross section of opinions are necessary. Removal of the Vance Monument is certainly one solution, but it is not necessarily the only solution.	I have lived in and have been raised in Asheville since the age of three and have raised two children here. I love Asheville and for what it stands. I am a professional and have served on many professional and religious boards.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am interested in being on this taskforce because my life's work, professional experience and personal interest is at the intersection of art, racial equity, and community. In September 2018 - after serving in various arts, leadership, and community-building roles in Asheville & Buncombe County - I founded Artists Designing Evolution (adé PROJECT), which is a community- based, learning organization comprised of artists, organizers, students, educators, entrepreneurs, and community leaders that cooperate to create a world beyond oppression, and inequity by building capacity, opportunity, and community with Black, indigenous, people of color (BiPOC) while preserving culture with creative, sustainable solutions – one project at a time. adé PROJECT organizers, members, and supporters are intergenerational, intersectional, integrated beings that lead the work from lived experience, an embodied Manifesto, along with creative facilitation, entrepreneurship, service, storytelling, and training + education as a strategic response in the face of inequitable power and cultural erasure in communities around the	I am an entrepreneur that learned at my grandmother's hand, a published poet/writer, life-long writer, motivational speaker, artist of many mediums, community builder, cultural organizer, creative facilitator, event + experience designer, and consultant/coach for individuals, groups, businesses, and communities seekly to more deeply connect with their creative possibilities. As mentioned, I am the Founder & Creative Community Organizer of Artists Designing Evolution (adé PROJECT), and I have also successfully worked for myself as an artist, facilitator, and entrepreneur for nearly 10 years. Since 2007, I have designed, produced, or facilitated hundreds of trainings, workshops, programs, and community events centered on authenticity, community building, creativity, entrepreneurship, innovation, and leadership across the Southeast. In that time, I have worked alongside nonprofits, entrepreneurs, educators, community leaders, artists, festival producers, conference organizers, small businesses and activists alike. Educationally, I hold a Master
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I want to live in a world where all races are treated equally. I believe removing monuments that uplift white supremacy will be a step in that direction. I would like to be apart of that movement.	I have multiple Associates degrees and am a software developer.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	To experience the process of reviewing proposals and finding the best solution for the common good for all citizens of Asheville and Buncombe County.	HRC Commissioner for 5 years, served on Thomas Wolfe Cabin Committee, Board Member of PSABC and chaired Endangered Properties Committee.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have lived in the South most of my life, and have an awareness of the feelings of Southerners toward the Confederacy, yet I have many family members who are black, and I have empathy for the pain they feel seeing monuments to slavery. We need to find a way to deal with our Confederate monuments in a way that draws people together rather than split us even more than we are now.	I have worked on teams before, and have led several non-profit boards. I am now retired and have time to devote to this. As a psychologist, I have been trained to listen to viewpoints and respond in a nonjudgmental manner.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	My solution is short and sweet. 15 years ago i moved to Asheville from Gettysburg Pa. I have intimate knowledge of the Gettysburg battle field. On July 3rd 1863 the last day of the 3 day battle The infamous "Picketts Chatge" took place. On one side of the Battlefield is a dirt road named "Confederate ave" because its where the rebels mustered for the attack. One side is wooded and the side toward the union line is a enormous field they charged across. The empty field is sacred ground and a perfect place for all confederate monuments nobody wants.	My love of History.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have had a longstanding desire to serve the community and have done so in many different contexts over the years (see below). Furthermore, I enjoy committee work and assisting groups in reaching reasonable consensus on complex issues.	I served as Member and Chair of the Asheville City School Board from 1987 through 1995, and as Chair of the Asheville Regional Airport for 6 ½ years (term of Board Membership 2006-2014), in addition to many other community involvements. My legal background (46 years as an attorney) would be of benefit to the Task Force. I was President of the Buncombe Bar Association 2000 – 2001.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a native and citizen of Asheville/Buncombe County,	feel this is the time to “seize the moment”to create a new future recognizing the Black Community’s past contributions and accomplishments and the value they have brought to Buncombe County. It is time Black and White and All people move forward together, united as one people, building our community— recognizing we all play a role in Buncombe County’s future—with a responsibility to each other.	Martin Luther King, Jr. Association of Asheville/Buncombe County, Board Member 2015-present Buncombe County Commissioner, 2012-14 Economic Development Coalition, Board Member 2012-14 Asheville Arts Council, Board Member 2013
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I want to be on the frontline as Buncombe County and The City of Asheville embark upon this journey of community learning in application of the prnciples embeded in "We The People", and the fulfillment of the intent of the Contittuions of both the State of North Carolina and the United States of America. I want to witness a match between words and deeds in my hometown and country.	I have worked internationally as an Organiaztion Development Practitioner for 30 plus years in a wide range of organizations. Since my retirement in 2008, I have practiced pro bono in many local inititives in support in individual leaders, and groups. I am a African rooted American. * I head a faimily of people from 73 to 10years old. in four counties within the African Disapora. I know what I see. I see opportunity to right some "not right features" to my hometown and country.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am a lifelong resident of Asheville and both parent's family histories are from WNC. My Great Grandfather was Wm. Bedent Smith, Sr. who raised his family on the Madison/Buncombe Co line. He built Refuge Church in Jupiter, NC and was instrumental in starting the Disciples of Christ Church on Oak Street. I have been a trustee of Refuge Cemetery, Jupiter, NC for more than 30 years. My family is related to Zebulon Baird Vance. His Grandfather was Zebulon Baird, brother of Bedent Baird, who is in my grandparent line. The Baird Brothers were some of the first founders of what was then known as Morristown, now Asheville in the late 1,700's. The Baird Brothers bought and sold the land under the courthouse and city hall and started the first general store in Asheville. (reference Cabins and Castles, Douglas Swaim, 1981). I consider the changes regarding Vance Monument important and necessary due to the fact that it was erected by the United Daughters of the Confederacy. I would like to be part of the process of the disposition of it.This is an opportunity for Asheville to set an example on how to	I attended Aycock Elem, Hall Fletcher Jr. High, and Asheville High School class of '72. I graduated from AB Tech and then Mars Hill College with a BS in Business and Management. At the age of 19, I spent over a year working in the offices of the Biltmore Forest Country Club where they tried to teach me to profile on the phone. My observations and my friendships with the staff led me to write a letter about my experiences. I delivered copies for their Board and had a serious talk with the manager about my time employed there. I experienced the AHS riots of 1969 '70 and 1971-'72 and learned, over time, why they happened. When I realized that my ten-year reunion was segregated, I helped form a new twenty-year reunion committee and worked with the existing Black reunion committee to combine the reunions. We had separate dances, but combined all other events. For the next reunion, I dissolved the (memberless) white reunion committee, transferred all monies to the Black Reunion Committee and started attending their meetings. We had joint
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	i want to make asheville a city where people of color feel welcome.	i am empathetic, smart, and interested in helping create a town that is equitable to all.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I hope the committee would represent all sides of the issue and to hold respectful conversations to reach the assigned purpose of the committee. I do not believe in removing monuments for they serve more than an honor to the individual or group they represent but more times than not offer a lesson of history that we should talk about and remember. I am capable of participating as a member of this committee with an open mind to other's views and opinions.	I enjoy research and believe this committee should not simply base its work on feelings but with a firm grounding in fact based material.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I've always taken an interest in the city I've lived in, both my hometown and the nearby major city. In Detroit, I worked with numerous organizations to bring positive change to the city. I revitalized three events that are now a major part of the activities of the city. To do this, I worked with city officials, police departments, church groups, non- profit organizations, sponsors, parks and recreation teams and many others. I want to see the city create something that will leave residents and guests with a positive impact. I want to be of service to my community.	I moved from an city that was 80% African American. Through events that I directed, I've made major contributions to local charities. I worked with and for the media (I was a weekly columnist for the Detroit Free Press). I am very aware of racial issues. My events in Detroit involved many organizations that were predominantly black, especially the churches and police departments. I've worked with numerous black mayors and staff. In regard to the monuments replacement, I've been an art collector for more than forty years. Both of my children graduated from art schools. Through my success as an athlete, I have traveled all over the world. I've had meaningful conversations with Presidents, generals, Princesses and Princes that have given my a unique perspective on relationships. I'm also a speaker who promotes fitness, motivation and courage.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am interested in serving because our community is hurting and we are facing an opportune moment to make decisions which can lead to healing. I have heard the cries of those who have suffered inequities throughout our community. I have also heard the cries of those who wish to honor our founding fathers with monuments left in place. It is important that we listen to both I am primarily interested because I am a "bridge-builder". By that I mean that most of my life has evolved around bringing people together. I am interested in serving on this task force because I desire to see people lifted and encouraged to be and do their best. I believe this taskforce has a tremendous OPPORTUNITY at this time in our history to honor those who have made our community great. This would certainly include African Americans. I have lived most of my life in Buncombe County and have been a recipient of the full and rich heritage of this beautiful people and land. I am concerned about the conflict regarding racial inequality that has exisited in our community for years. I feel that actively participating with this group and representing our	Having served as a pastor for over 25 years, and now as the business owner of a wedding venue, I have had the privilege of working with people from various backgrounds. My philosophy is to treat other people the way I would like to be treated, regardless of race, religion or sexual orientation. Therefore this would be my main objective in seeking to serve in this capacity. One of the greatest compliments I have received through my work with the public was how fair I have been with people. Simply stated - I treat others the way I hope others would treat me. I also completed doctoral level work in conflict management and mediation which has also given me effective tools to use in working with people to solve interpersonal issues.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I moved to Asheville from Houston Texas 4 years ago. One of my intentions has been to become actively involved in making Asheville a city that lives up to its reputation as "a great place to live" for all its people. I would like to see the Vance monument replaced by a piece of art that truly reflects the spirit of Asheville and serves as a welcoming image for all people.	I am a psychologist with 35 years experience working with individuals and groups to transform their lives. I served for two years as the facilitator for the City of Houston HIV Task Force in the early 1990's. I have excellent communication and mediation skills and believe that I would be an asset in the group process. As a new comer to the city and as an African American, I bring a fresh perspective in regard to the need for greater equity and inclusion in Asheville.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	The Vance Monument does not reflect the virtues of the majority of modern day Asheville and Buncombe County residents. If it was a small monument we would not need this Taskforce; I have faith that the city and county would have taken appropriate action to have it moved. But the size presents special problems, I've thought for years that the size alone would preclude any action being taken to remove it. But I am glad I was wrong and I would like to help see it get to a new location safely and intact. I have stood there in front of the monument, like many of you, and considered how best to move it. I believe it can be safely taken down so that it can be preserved in a new location. Great efforts were taken to build a monument that would last for generations. Significant care will be required to see it moved. Where to move it? A place of study and retrospect. The Vance birthplace should be an option. Or possibly a Confederate cemetery or a Civil War site. There are certainly many options that should be thoughtfully considered.	I have led large projects involving teams of 5 to 50 persons. I have seen every one of these projects to completion. Extensive experience with remote teams including livestream and collaboration software. Tools such as Zoom, Google Meet, and Remo. Love of the arts. Extensive collector. Entrepreneurial mindset. I want to do more than just participate, I want to build.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As an archivist and former museum curator, I have a great deal of professional and personal interest in history - its preservation, its interpretation, who is represented in the historical record, and a keen awareness that people feel a fierce closeness to their own histories. Any decision made by the taskforce regarding the monument - whether to keep, remove, or something altogether - will not be without criticism. However, the prominent and central nature of this monument is a constant source of pain for many members of our community and the city has an obligation to take that pain seriously. Furthermore, the chance to engage our community on acknowledging the history of enslavement in Buncombe County and the structural inequalities it faces today is crucial. Our country is on the cusp of change, and I want to work with others to bring it to fruition.	Most recently I was the Special and Digital Collections Librarian and an associate professor at Western Carolina University. I was charged with maintaining and expanding the university's archival collections documenting WNC and I gained the trust of donors and community members. I have gained exhibit experience as the Curator of Collections at the Arab American National Museum in Dearborn, MI and Vice President of the Appalachian Women's Museum in Dillsboro, NC. I developed the skills to eloquently represent the identity of one group to a wider audience, to engage outside stakeholders, and how to be mindful of resource restraints such as budgets and staff. Lastly, as a university professor I served on a lot of committees. A lot. I'm good at committees and decent at Roberts Rules of Order. I think these broad perspectives would be beneficial to this committee.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am not a person that will be in lock step with everything yet will wrestle honestly with all handed us to contend with therefore I am interested in becoming a member of this task force. All my degrees are in the sciences but I love history and enjoy the time in retirement to give to learning more about our Western North Carolina heritage. I was born and raised in Asheville and my Mothers family is from Buncombe County, living mostly off Shepherd's Branch Road (they were Shepherds). My Father's family is from Germany originally but settled in Minnesota. Dad was one of twelve children. There is much to know about where we came from and why we are who we are. These are the types of foundational questions facing us on this committee. From our collective answers will come the products we are entrusted to deliver.	A career in the military taught me that most permanent decisions affecting greater numbers of people are not done easily but often do have a time line to meet. Heritage is a word that inherently embodies a time element. We are to wrestle with heritage but be open to quick change. These are not two systems that easily meet. We must find a common place for heritage to feel comfortable with quick change. My career as a nurse brought me in contact with all types of people, mostly at some of their worst moments in life. Whatever lies ahead of us inter-personally and as a community, I have probably seen it.. I have just enough discipline to be a help and just enough procrastination to be easy to live around!
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As an architect I believe we shape can shape our community by how we move through it and enhance it. I am not for or against removal but want to make sure the history of architecture and how monuments are part of the community are considered. The social implications of what a community holds dear and lifts up says a lot about a community. I believe history that is inclusive and written by everyone will lead to a stronger community in the future.	Architect

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am a 6 year resident of Buncombe County, Guardian ad Litem and white mother to multiracial, African American elementary aged children. Trying to explain to my children why people who look like I do have a monument for doing horribly unspeakable things to children who look like them has long been a struggle for me. I believe it's long past due that our county stop memorializing a man who frequently was outspoken in his support of human slavery. I do not want my children's generational history to be lost. I believe it to be important that we, as a community, learn from our past mistakes, turn from them and move forward in honoring those who are honorable.	-Community volunteer as a Guardian ad Litem in Buncombe County for 5 years. I'm experienced in working with community members from Judges and lawyers to marginalized members of Buncombe county. My work takes me into our courts, schools, public service sectors and I represent children in court. -I strongly believe that as a white woman, a person who looks like those that erected this monument (Daughters of the Confederacy), it's incumbent upon me to work with our African American citizens to repair the wrongs that were and are committed against them. White women put this monument up. White women should be involved in righting this wrong. It was "our" mistake and we need to take the opportunity to help be apart of fixing it. -Before being a stay at home parent, I was employed in internal community relations for multiple organizations, a Congressional staff member and am comfortable working with both constituents and governmental leaders. -I am well read on issues of injustice, history and am a native
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a history teacher, I'm very interested in the ways the history we choose to tell creates our present reality. My role as the mom of an interracial family (my partner is SE Asian) fuels my passion for issues of social justice and inclusive community.	As a school administrator, I gained experience building consensus on complex issues. My graduate work in social science included research into Asheville's historical relationship with slavery and an intensive focus on systems of privilege and oppression. I am practiced in acting as a bridge between the issues my family experiences and discusses as people of color and white people who may not have as much education around/exposure to these issues and their history.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am an African adopted from Ghana that has grown up in Asheville, The reason why I was able to go to art school at Rhode Island School of Design was because I came here. I took all the art classes that I could, it was the main activity that got me through and partly made me who I am today. Ever since I came to this country I have witnessed people being treated differently soley because of their skin. It is interesting because America would be nothing without Immigrants without Black Americans who built it. It is only just that the Vance monument be taken down. It was made by a confederate organization an organization that protected the institution of slavery, that alone right there is an obvious message that it should not be a sign of Asheville.	I can help commission a new art piece or sculpture. I have experience in woodworking and welding. I am 23 years old and just graduated with a BFA in Furniture design.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have been an active member in Community Health Improvement work led by Buncombe County Health and Human services for several years. I am deeply concerned about the impact that structural racism has on our community and the resulting inequities that it causes. It is unacceptable to me, the harm our systems cause Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in our community. The list of inequities is long - economic opportunity, affordable housing, academic achievement, infant mortality, diabetes mortality, life expectancy, and more. As a long time citizen (over 20 years a resident of Buncombe County) of this community, I am concerned about the future of our community. The economic and overall well-being of residents of Buncombe County it tied to shaping a new future together and intentionally disrupting the patterns that have resulted in displacement of African American residents, the shift in our economy away from manufacturing to tourism - which does not create living wage employment, and trends that	I would bring to the task force several qualifications and/or experiences: I am a Certified Nurse Midwife and can bring the perspective of the impact that racism has on pregnant women and birth outcomes in our community. I am a trained Mediator and a former active volunteer at the Mediation Center - I have skills in listening and conflict resolution. I am a member of the Board of Resources for Resilience and have completed 2.5 years of training in Somatic Experiencing - I have a broad and deep understanding of trauma and resilience. As I mentioned above, I am a member of the Buncombe County CHIP Leadership Team and Advisory Council and Mothering Asheville, a movement to eliminate the black/white inequity in infant mortality in Buncombe County - I have a lot of experience with multi- stakeholder, collaborative work and the broader upstream/downstream public health framework. I have completed Building Bridges, foundational Racial Equity Institute training, and am a member of the Western Circle of the Poor People's
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have been an active member in Community Health Improvement work led by Buncombe County Health and Human services for several years. I am deeply concerned about the impact that structural racism has on our community and the resulting inequities that it causes. It is unacceptable to me, the harm our systems cause Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in our community. The list of inequities is long - economic opportunity, affordable housing, academic achievement, infant mortality, diabetes mortality, life expectancy, and more. As a long time citizen (over 20 years a resident of Buncombe County) of this community, I am concerned about the future of our community. The economic and overall well-being of residents of Buncombe County it tied to shaping a new future together and intentionally disrupting the patterns that have resulted in displacement of African American residents, the shift in our economy away from manufacturing to tourism - which does not create living wage employment, and trends that threaten the long term viability of our	I would bring to the task force several qualifications and/or experiences: I am a Certified Nurse Midwife and can bring the perspective of the impact that racism has on pregnant women and birth outcomes in our community. I am a trained Mediator and a former active volunteer at the Mediation Center - I have skills in listening and conflict resolution. I am a member of the Board of Resources for Resilience and have completed 2.5 years of training in Somatic Experiencing - I have a broad and deep understanding of trauma and resilience. As I mentioned above, I am a member of the Buncombe County CHIP Leadership Team and Advisory Council and Mothering Asheville, a movement to eliminate the black/white inequity in infant mortality in Buncombe County - I have a lot of experience with multi-stakeholder, collaborative work and the broader upstream/downstream public health framework. I have completed Building Bridges, foundational Racial Equity Institute training, and am a member of the Western Circle of the Poor People's Campaign - I

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a Native Buncombe County, COA resident I want to assist and support the MOVEMENT long needed in Asheville. This movement needs to pay honor to all of history yet not celebrate some dark times. We need to learn and respect history, not glorify the negative parts of it. A movement to celebrate ALL people of the City, County, and WNC. We need to keep pace with society changes and still reflect back on what has made this such an impactful and gracious area to be a part of. Born in Asheville at St Joseph Hospital, living in the Erwin, Enka districts for years and in west Asheville area also for several years I have seen a lot of our citizenship and how we live.	Only a citizen and native son to the area. Wanting to see what I can do to support a well over needed change and adoption of a more positive remembrance and celebration of our entire, whole past!
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have lived in Asheville for almost 30 years. I taught at Asheville High for 13 yrs. and served First Congregational United Church of Christ on Oak st., two blocks from the Vance monument for ten years assistant minister. I love this city and want to help find a way to bring a peaceful and consensual resolution to this issue.	While at AHS my classes were the place where east met west racially. I was the conductor of the Asheville High Madrigal Singers that equally represented students from both Hill Crest and North Ashevile. My students included Shenika Smith, Asheville City Council and Keynon Lake, the driving force behind the Asheville mentoring program "My Daddy Taught Me That.org. as well as Chris Hess, former DA office in Asheville. As a teacher I had a good working relationship with members of the Black community including Rev.LC Ray, Robbie Williams, and the late Rev. Theodore Smith.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I just want it to be a fair purpose. I am not tied to any group except I am a native of buncombe County born and raised here in Asheville.	I am a native. I am the chairman of the board for Eblen Charities. I have heard both sides of the people voice on this issue. This can be worked out peacefully. We have to unite our community
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	People told me to sign up, they think i can do something about it. Also the idea of creating new history is something i would like to be a part of.	I dont know a bit of workd history, psychology. I mean as in a bit like a bit not a chunm a bit.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I know the Vance Monument is a symbol of Hate to some but it is a symbol of Heritage to others. I am interested in serving on this Taskforce to ensure that Heritage is preserved, while listening in earnest to whatever information is presented to the Taskforce to make a Fair and Balanced decision. I admit that I have my own opinion but I would swear to Almighty God that I would save my decision on the matter until all information has been presented to the Taskforce. I recognize that as a member of this Task Force, it would be my responsibility to listen to the stories, opinions, and information presented to the Taskforce and make my final decision based on the Opinions of the Community.	I have been sober and living with the True Love of God for nearly four years now. Before I found the Light, I was arrested for a DWI in Asheville. And that was the moment that turned my life around. I am grateful to the City of Asheville for helping me see my flaws and helping me find the Path toward positive change in my life. I feel is it my civic duty to become more involved in local government to express my gratitude to the City for helping me turn my life around. I was also a member of my high school debate team.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I moved to Asheville in 2018 and was very quick to notice that I am always one of a handful of people of color in any public space. As a non- Black person of color who relocated to Asheville from a more racially and ethnically diverse community in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area, I struggle with my continuous discomfort of being the only person of color in almost any room I walk into in our city. I believe building a task force that is representative of ALL Ashevillians, especially the disenfranchised and unheard, and offer my voice in service of eradicating public spaces that wrongfully celebrate the legacy of slavery and racism.	I am a big believer in the power of storytelling and the power it can have on both an individual and the community. In 2018, I participated in an immigrant storytelling event in DC hosted by Story District where I told my story at one of their live events. If selected for the Taskforce, I would love the opportunity to tap into the stories from our Black community & shine a light on them by replacing the Vance monument with the story of a notable Black Ashevillian. I am an ESOL tutor with the Literacy Council and sit on their Board. I am a CPA and MBA and work as a nonprofit financial consultant. I am well versed in the art of wearing multiple hats and juggling priorities. I am willing and able to put in the time, research, & dedication expected of a member of this Taskforce. Lastly, as a non-Black minority, I look forward to bringing a unique perspective to this and any table I have the privilege of being invited to.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I grew up in the South and I have a long-time interest in both issues of equity and the tone and quality of public spaces. I'm very "invested" in the civic landscape of downtown Asheville, in particular, having served for six years on the Public Art and Cultural Commission.	In terms of matters of equity, as an army journalist serviing in Europe, I wrote about racial issues and sat on a "human relations" council that dealt with tensions in barrack communities in Germany. Since moving to Asheville in 1976, I've been engaged in a large number of projects touching on matters of equity and diversity; I'm a writer and historian, authoring books on regional histories, a founding team member of "Muddy Sneakers" experiential outdoor program for kids, a supporter and historian for the YWCA with emphasis on racial fairness, long-time member of the Environmental Leadership Council at Warren Wilson, Big Brothers/Sisters participant, teacher at UNCA's school for seniors in the art of storytelling. I've directed a film and book on the Urban Trail, served on PACC (six years), currently serve as a member of the Haywood/Page urban space citizen task force. I am an artist and a chronicler of the arts (The Craft Heritage Trails) and I am currently writing a history of WNC community development for Western North Carolina Communities.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am committed to helping push for great progress with Civil Rights and to fighting injustice in Asheville. We have a chance ot lead the State by example.	I have worked with Keynon Lake's My Daddy Taught Me That organization that supports Ashevilel Youth. In that work I have become keenly aware of the challenges within the community. My work leading The Resilience Inititive has amplified my commitment to fight injustive and support community growth. My work and educational background [MBA and Ed D] provide an insightful perspective into emotional, physical, and financial health.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am interested in serving because it is an opportunity to calmly discuss an issue that can affect the direction of our home and bring some consensus that is acceptable to different groups. If done correctly, this can be a uniting and uplifting opportunity.	I am 72 years old and have lived in Asheville for 65 of those years. I grew up in West Asheville, lived in North Asheville for many years and now live in East Asheville. I am an alumnus of of Asheville City Schools(including Vance Elementary) and two years at Asheville Biltmore College (graduate of WCU). My children are both graduates of Asheville High School. I am also an alumnus of Leadership Asheville (13), former director of development at UNCA and MANNA Foodbank and have volunteered helping immigrants achieve citizenship status through tutoring.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	As a historian, I believe that we must look at all points in an issue. In this case, I am undecided on the removal of the Vance monument. I believe a careful, informative decision needs to be made. To make this decision, the entire history of Vance needs to be looked at and what he did for all citizens of North Carolina.	I have a Masters in Education and by August will have my Masters in History. In both programs, I undertook in-depth studies of American history including a course on slavery and one on the American Civil War.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	To bring some abstract thought to the task force	I've been a Buncombe Co resident my entire life(52 yrs) and also a business owner and state licensed contractor for many years
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I feel that as a relative new resident (Moved Dec 2016) I have the perspective of newer residents to the area. We represent the future of the area in that regard. I think that perspective should be taken into account.	I was an appointee of Gov Arnold Schwarzenegger to the California State Bar Committee of Bar Examiners for five years. I served the entire time on the Moral Character Determination Subcommittee reviewing the actions (positive and negative of applicants to determine if they had sufficient moral character to be admitted to the Bar. I served on a death penalty jury in California where the jury decided the emotional issue of life without parole or death. The ability to be objective from the start will be crucial even if one has a strong opinion to start.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I want to assist in bringing peace and understanding to Asheville. There is a need for balance between the preservation of historical art juxtaposed with community racial concerns. I am very concerned with the Buncombe County political and social divisions that appear to be growing wider and would like to see a compromise made that honors modern circumstances and still keeps in perspective historical societal norms. It is important for people to understand the great strides that have been made over the years from legal slavery, to the abolishment of slavery, to the Jim Crow days, to the civil rights of the 60's, on to today.	1. Master's Degree in Social Work from Western Carolina University. I a currently a Licensed Clinical Social Worker and Licensed Clinical Addictions Specialist. I have experience as a liaison between clients and government entities to include drug court, probation, parole, and the department of social services. I have insider experience with assisting people of color and their unique circumstances. 2. Undergraduate degree in Studio Art with a heavy concentration in Art History. This includes one semester independent study Latin American Art History at Benito Juarez Universidad in Oaxaca, Oxaca Mexico. (Kennesaw State University, Georgia : Magna Cum Laude) 3. I have a strong experience balancing social justice and business needs. I have taken numerous diversity trainings and ethics continuing education classes in addition to my initial diversity training and understanding professionally developed in graduate school. I have worked at 3 agencies in Asheville with multi ethnic populations and currently
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	From 2014-2019 I served on the City of Asheville's Public Art and Cultural Commission. Beginning during my term as Vice-Chair (2015-2017) and through my term as commission Chair (2017-2019), I worked closely with the African-American community of Asheville to initiate and develop a public art project that would acknowledge, commemorate, and celebrate the history and presence of African-Americans in Asheville. The project, Celebrating African Americans through Public Art (CAAPA), originally developed in coordination with Brenda Mills, was largely conceived as a response to the Vance Monument.	With the direction of City staff community leaders, including Sheneika Smith, Al Whitesides, Darin Waters, and many others, I helped the Commission organize a series of community engagement and listening events to better understand the public art needs of the African-American community. This involved several years of focused research, dialogue, and listening. Through extensive meetings with community leaders, public presentations, community listening events, radio and media interviews, the formation of a public art project task force, and many meaningful interactions with the Black community of Asheville, we selected and commissioned "Hope Springs Forth Brightly," a community-informed art installation that honors the history of The Block in Asheville.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	Without sounding derogatory there has to be a fair and balanced committee to make the decision of the removal of the monument and what to be put in it's place. Obviously the decision to remove the monument was not an objective decision and is not fair to Buncombe County residents when a Democratic Mayor, Democratic City Council, and majority Democratic County Commissioners made the decision for everyone. I want to be on the committee to give an objective opinion and try to work together to come up with the right decision for EVERYONE, not just one special interest group.	I am simply a 22 year resident of Asheville that believes in history and the city's heritage whether it is good or bad. This is how we as a society learn not to make the same mistakes again. If we erase history like everyone is trying to do we could easily repeat it again.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I was Born at St Joseph's hospital in 1971 and have lived in Buncombe County most of my adult life. I own A home near the Vance Birthplace. I have Witnessed racism in this area my entire life. I want To be part of the change that ends racism in our mountains.	I am A lifelong native of this area which gives me special insight into the native community here.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Member of the community since 1982. Interested in fostering open dialogue.	Past president of Manna Food Bank. Served on multiple non- profits that serve people of all races.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I would like to repurpose the monument in a way that will include honors to African American citizens. The name Vance may be removed and the monument rebranded in a way that will honor all citizens from the time period who contributed to the the culture of Asheville as it is today.	Native to the area. My Dad was an Asheville firefighter, who, before the days of public information officers, was one of the faces of the city and fire department. My grandmother was Asheville's first meter maid. My granddad was a former warden at Craggy prison and candidate for the county commision. My point of view represents the true heritage of our beautiful area. I am well spoken and reasonable. I am willing to compromise to promote the common welfare.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Asheville's and WNC's racial history, like many other regions of the country, has been whitewashed..literally. It is ugly. Ethnic cleansing of Cherokee and brutal treatment of Blacks whether slave or free is largely unknown. For the last three years, I've been conducting research for my new book on the natural and cultural history of the French Broad watershed. It will be published next spring by U Tenn Press. My goal is to tell the history as it happened so that we might learn from it. Destruction of monuments is little more than a thin and toxic band-aid on the open wound of racism...thin because it does not cure the disease and toxic because it provokes violent response. Rather, we should consider turning Pack Square into a history park presenting the roles of all peoples in creating the city we know and admire. At the same time, we must revise K- 12 curriculum in city and county schools to accurately present history and show how it has moved us all toward the ideals set fort in the Declaration of Independence and the	Three years of research in preparation for my book carried me deeply into how European traders turned the Cherokee from a proud and independent people into a race of fearful and economically indentured serfs. Virtually, every white name associated with the establishment of Asheville and Buncombe County held slaves. In the main, owners of small groups of slaves were more brutal toward them than owners of large plantations. Read Wilma Dunaway: Slavery in the Mountain South. Years as a successful leader of community non-profits has taught me that one learns more by listening than talking. As a communications professional - co-wrote the benchmark book on the practice of public relations in higher education (UNCA was a client; worked with Dave Brown in forming the Council of Public Liberal Arts Colleges) - I can be helpful to the Taskforce in generating community support for its endeavors. Since the late 1960s as a college
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	| like tolerance and| don't like state-sponsored symbols of division and hate. | want to see a future for Asheville / Buncombe County that reflects the values of its citizens.	Scientist - 24 years at the Environmental Protection Agency where | conducted public meetings on hazardous waste that were often contentious. Environmental Chief of the 1996 Olympicsin Atlanta. Author and recognized expert in the life and art of John James Audubon, a former slave holder. My collection of prints is part of the current featured exhibit at Asheville Art Museum. Long-term studentof our Civil War, the motives of the secessionists, and the arise of "lost cause" mythology.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am interested in finding a solution without reactionary knee jerk short term quick fix. There are many constituency many who are not vocal in these times.	I am a retired public artist, who worked and designed site specific and site engendered artwork. There should be members of the committee who have devised site surveys along with a needs assessment, to Analise the sites assets and liabilities along with surveying the populations who are using the artwork. Along with design of the solution , a reasonable budget needs to be created so that the community costs can be part of the decision process.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As the collections manager of the North Carolina Room at Pack Memorial Library and a native of Buncombe County, I am deeply concerened with the preservation, interpretation, and popular understanding of our area's historic resources. As the director of our public archives, I am helping to lead an effort to increase the equity of our community's historic resources through the Black Asheville History Project and other community-driven preservation efforts.	I hold a B.A. in History and an Master of Liberal Arts and Sciences from UNGA where I specialized in the history of enslaved peoples and the pre-Civil War economy. My B.A. thesis examined the role of the Buncombe Turnpike and early leisure travel on the lives of slavers and the enslaved using the Vance family as an example. I have held positions at the Vance Birthplace State Historic Site, as Assistant Director of the Swannanoa Valley Museum, as well as served on the African American Heritage Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	With our community, our nation, at yet another crossroad in a conflict of human understanding concerning symbols with diverse meaning I covet the opportunity to serve with fellow citizens in developing solutions. SEE ATTACHED ARTICLE SUPPORTING MY RATIONALE FOR SERVING OUR COMMUNITY ON THIS BOARD... https://mountainx.com/news/lessons- from-local-international-exchange- programs/ Posted on June 25, 2020 by Thomas Calder Know thyself Ken Richards has been involved in international work since the late 1950s, living and teaching abroad for much of his adult life. He retired to Asheville in 1980. Eight years later, he helped launch Asheville Sister Cities, a nonprofit that aims to promote international awareness and cultivate relationships with the organization's seven "sisters": Vladikavkaz, Russia; San Cristobal de las Casas, Mexico; Saumur, France; Karpenisi, Greece; Valladolid, Mexico; Osogbo, Nigeria;	Human understanding and human relations has been the underpinning of my career and my lifestyle. By choice I attended the integrated High School of Commerce in Detroit, Michigan. This proved to be significant to developing a feeling of brotherhood and sisterhood to all persons. As a student at Wayne State University beginning in 1950 I was a member of he "Panel of Americans" team. We were an integrated group of students who traveled extensively to expose differences and share all our similarities as human beings to community groups, church groups, fraternal groups and more. Our chair, Hubert Locke, always opened each meeting with phrase, "We are all speaking the same language this evening under the Fatherhood of God and Brotherhood of Man". Eventually following a career in Department of Defens

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	To take part in and contribute to seeing a positive change that is for the betterment of Asheville and Buncombe County. To serve on a Taskforce that is balanced and fair and aspires to represent ALL people. To bring a fresh perspective, willingness to listen and a voice of reason to a difficult current and historical topic.	-Retired police detective with over 27 years law enforcement experience (Suffolk County, NY). -Assignments that included but were not limited to investigating crimes of domestic violence, elder abuse, child physical and sexual abuse, as well as hate crimes that targeted persons or property based on their race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, age or disability. -Former President of the Suffolk County Association of Women Police. -B.A. Psychology and Sociology, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I'm a professor of postcolonial studies and literatures at Western Carolina University. My teaching and scholarship focus on the politics of colonization, primarily in African contexts (primarily Nigeria, South Africa, and Zimbabwe), and the legacy of African slavery in the United States. I have extensive experience (over 25 years) of studying, teaching, and publishing on the mechanisms and politics of white supremacy, resistance movements against it, restorative justice, and reconciliation in the wake of decolonization. In my contemporary literature courses, my students collaborate on a "syllabus" assignment that allows them to explore and contribute to the discourse around a contemporary resistance movement/action of their choice. In 2017, they chose to create a syllabus about the NFL protests (which can be found here: https://medium.com/@ellesmythy/the nfl-syllabus-c4eff918bfc3).	My entire academic career has been devoted to teaching, studying, and writing about the politics of white supremacy, oppression, and the potential for restorative justice and reconciliation during decolonization. From 2015-2017, I co-chaired (with Professor Kofi Lomotey) WCU's campus theme, "Africa! More than a Continent," which oversaw and generated campus programming and events including film screenings, speakers, art exhibits, and musical events, as well as study abroad opportunities in Kenya, Botswana, and South Africa. Additionally, programming engaged with the African diaspora and the legacy of slavery in western NC. I lead the campus theme task force of approximate 12 faculty, staff, and student members who collaborated on all programming for the two year period, and collaborated with the one book committee to bring Nigerian-American journalist Dayo Olopade to campus. Here is information about all events: https://www.wcu.edu/learn/academi c-enrichment/campus- theme/previous-campus-themes/africa-more-than-a-
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Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	To help facilitate the removal of the long-contentious Vance Monument with a replacement that highlights the contributions of the African-American community and honors their legacy and history here.	I'm a licensed general contractor, and bring a level of construction and art installation knowledge that could contribute to the technical portion of the boards' conversations about the removal, commission, and successful installation of the new monument.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am interested in serving on the Taskforce because I am committed to justice, equity, and ethics in our social institutions, and I believe it has been harmful to our society to honor slavery and those who supported it through public commemoration and monuments. Furthermore, I believe it is important to recognize the full breadth of influence and service in our community through honoring the diverse peoples that made our town what it is today, and this requires building new monuments to those that have been ignored or erased from our history for far too long. In addition, I am interested in serving on this Taskforce because I want the City of Asheville to be materially inclusive for all people, and for us to lead our state and the nation in restorative justice measures. I believe this moment in history offers us an opportunity to recreate the dream of America in a way that honors the efforts of ALL people, while also acknowledging our painful past. In taking these steps to remove/replace the Vance Monument, we will finally begin the long road to healing in our local community, and as a nation.	I have worked to promote social justice, and specifically racial justice and equity in my personal life through my education, my actions, and my work. I earned my undergraduate degree from UNCA in Ethics and Social Institutions in 2015, and my graduate degree from Wake Forest in Bioethics in 2019. I am a 22 year resident of Asheville and a community educator. I am a team player. I listen and take notes. I am organized and committed to follow through. Last but not least, I'd like to share a letter I wrote in the Mountain Xpress in 2016 that kicked off a campaign to remove the monument. Read in this link: https://mountainx.com/opinion/letter- writer-remove-vances-name-from- downtown-monument/ Below I have also pasted the letter: Letter writer: Remove Vance's name from downtown monument Posted on April 3, 2016 by Letters Graphic by Lori Deaton Fact: Political leaders who promote or turn a blind eye to racist policies
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am interested in serving as a task force member because I believe in allowing art (by Black artists) to have prominent placement to heal our community's wounds from the enslavement of Black people.	I was honored by the City of Asheville in 2008 for Excellence in Public Service for my outstanding contribution to improving diversity. The award was given because of my collaboration with city staff in creating the City of Asheville Youth Leadership Academy.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a queer art historian, I have a passion for advocacy as well as an understanding of the importance of public space and messaging. An arts administrator who has worked downtown for several years, I have closely followed the progress of public opinion surrounding the Vance monument. As a resident of Buncombe county, I am invested in the health of our downtown. The creation of this Taskforce is key to all of my interests and personal drive to better ourselves and our city through arts and culture, and I could bring a unique skillset of curatorial work, arts administration, and art historical knowledge of monuments to the Taskforce.	My graduate degree in Art History with a focus on monuments, a knowledge of local history through local museum work, and my regional understanding as a Southerner would aid in my service on this Taskforce. Through my graduate research, I offer a specialized perspective into the many iterations which monuments can take as well as the possibility of monuments to serve public interest and cultivate powerful and meaningful cultural exchanges. In late 2020, I will attend the Southeastern Museum Conference's Leadership Institute, for which I was selected & which will focus on DEAI initiatives taught by a diverse group of leaders in the museum field. I hope to bring the education I receive at the Leadership Institute as well as the expertise of a diverse group of Museum leaders to the Taskforce.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have lived 63 years in the Midwest, the Southeast, two years outside the US, and the last 20 in Buncombe County . As a Boy Scout in Tennessee in the 1960's and 70's, I hiked battlefields of the Revolutionary War and the Civil War, was presented a history at those monuments and in private and public schools that was a slanted 'partial " history. Even through high school, college at a major public university described by most as a hotbed of liberalism and law school, only a partial view of the formation, history and governance of this country was taught . Almost 40 years of practicing law provided only a nominal opening of the door to a larger truth. Over those same 50+ years, our country has been operated primarily for the benefit of a very small percentage of its people, and its happened because America's people had been taught / accepted without question a partial view of their country, their communities, their organizations. That's not what this country was supposed to be. Monuments are intended to be reminders, but being reminded of something that is a lie, or a part- truth, is part of the systemic	55 years of learning history , civics, 40 years of practicing law, familiarity with real estate and public use law, familiarity with board and small group processes.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Asheville resident for 34 years. Now living directly above the vance monument and Pack Square. Active in the BLM movement (https://islandconnectionnews.com/m aking-a-difference-3/). My home directly overlooking the monument from the 15th floor of the Arras Residences (AKA BB&T) gives me a "unique perspective" on the project.	My home on the 15th floor of the Arras Residences (AKA BB&T) directly overlooks the monument. I am a Professional Architect, registered with the NC Board of Architects, and member of the American Institute of Architects.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	To be a voice of reason. Where does this stop? Both G. Washington and T. Jefferson were Virginia slave owners. Do we tear down their monuments. The Vance family has been a part of the early days of WNC. The Vance memorial looks like the Washington Memorial built before and after the civil war.	I have visited the Vance Home, Washington and Jefferson home. I am familiar with all sites and worked for the National Park Service. Also, visited the Douglas Home. 2% of the US population died during the civil war.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I truly believe that this monument belongs to all the people of Asheville and North Carolina. I am in favor of i repurposing it to honor the African American Community, the Indian Community, the Diverse Community, and all i Ashevillians. I understand why they do not want it to be the Vance Monument, but it should represent all peoples if changed.	I taught in the Asheville City School system for 30 years, 28 of which were at Asheville High School. I was born in Asheville and have been a resident for 71 years. I understand the oppression that the Black Community is under and would like to be a part of changing that. I have been on many committees to choose Superintendents of ACS, to improve education, and to improve community relations when I was teaching. I am now retired but have a great deal of interest in imporving the lives ! of the Black community. I strongly feel that they do not take advantage of opportunities afforded to them and that needs to change.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Asheville/Buncombe County has been my home for 33 years. I have seen the area around the granite obelisk used as the public forum for free speech: speaking out for peace; social, economic, and racial equity—a tangible landmark at our city's heart. As I watched the passion and dedication of those marching for racial justice after George Floyd's murder, I was very hopeful that this could be a turning point, that maybe this time with the energy of all ages, maybe things could change. I would like to see this if this area could be repurposed and rededicated as the 2020 Landmark of Reconciliation. I would like to see the 1897 obelisk saved, if possible, because I think it is architecturally and historically significant as the design and creation of Richard Sharp Smith. Englishman Smith came to Asheville in the 1880s to be the supervising architect for Richard Morris Hunt's work in Asheville: Biltmore and four buildings in Biltmore Village. Smith designed the Young Men's Institute (YMI), and later established his own practice and was then the most prolific and significant architect in Asheville's history adding Hopkins Chapel AME Zion Church, the Masonic Temple,	• I am a retired architectural historian and historic preservation specialist from the State Historic Preservation Offices of both North and South Carolina. • I grew up in Sumter, South Carolina, where I attended public schools in the first wave of desegregation efforts. • I am a member of the Episcopal Peace Fellowship and try to live by my baptismal covenant to "to strive for justice and peace among all people and respect the dignity of every human being."
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I love Asheville and I want to be an active part of the community and advocate for BIPOC. This opportunity is really calling to me and I can't exactly explain why, I just feel drawn to it in my gut, it is something I really want to be a part of. I want to see the Vance Monument removed and I want to support the voices of BIPOC to decide what happens to it.	I am currently leading the task force for the Perinatal Emotional Health Network of WNC. We advocate for the mental health of families during their pregnancy and postpartum time period. We hold monthly lunch & learns, and two annual events to share education and spread awareness about issues surrounding perinatal mood and anxiety disorders, pregnancy loss, and birth experiences. We acknowledge the higher mortality rates for both mother and baby in communities of color. We are working on ways to advocate for these families and integrate anti- racism work within our organization.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I believe I can be helpful in weighing all possible perspective and options in a way that is fair but that also does the most good overall. I'm a psychologist and work with people daily, so the skills of hearing many viewpoints while also adiving toward a balanced and healthy conclusion is already something I practice professionally. I value both history and social harmony, as well as care and consideration for overlooked members of our community. But most of all I believe in Asheville and continuing to aid our city in doing what it does best: adapt to change and growth with heart and creativity.	I currently serve as a manager to a team of mental health clinicians, organize projects and facilitated operational tasks within the company I work for. I am also a self- starter and a dedicated communicator.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have lived in WNC for the majority of my life, and the past 9 have been in Asheville. I love this community and have watched in grow and flourish. During this time, I have also heard the hurt and concern from our Black and POC communities within this city. They don't always feel safe, or protected, or even seen. Who can blame them? We have a huge monument in the center of our downtown that is there to intimidate and remind Black community members of painful past. Asheville is a growing city, but until we fairly represent all the members of this community, it will always be shadowed by a sad and shameful past. As a Jewish woman, I have a connection to a past where my people were targeted and murdered. I can only imagine if Germany still had monuments and statues that were dedicated and honoring Nazi soldiers, and if I was forced to walk past them on a regular basis. There's nothing honorable about what the Nazis did to over 6 million Jewish people, and there's nothing honorable about the Confederacy and what it stood for. When people	I have been an active part of Asheville's arts community, which would allow for vision that is inclusive and creative. I also am the Head of Human Resources at my company, which offers a deep knowledge in processes, policies, and strategies to help make sure everyone feels heard and represented.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I would like to see it repurposed by removing the name "Vance" and replacing it with an appropriate important local African-American.	I am a native with maternal roots in the area that date back to the end of the American Revolution.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	To me, the Obelisk is an art work. I go visit and take pictures often, never really thinking of the "person" for which it was named. It has been a part of my entire life, and an Icon of the City of Asheville. I never give thought to why it was placed there, but do remember visiting with my parents as a child. And, at one time, recall there were restrooms beneath a portion of that property, long before a pool was placed there. An Icon of this artistic structure endears me to enjoy the fact that we have an Obelisk in Asheville, as I have seen others in Europe and the U.S.	I am accomplished in use of Computers, took classes in early stages of computers for work in Catastrophes around our Nation. I've seen destruction by Hurricanes, Tornadoes and Earthquakes, and it was heartbreaking to see the personal loss of families, as well as Historical buildings and Municipal Buildings. I served as an Adjuster, and a Catastrophe Supervisor for many locations across the U.S. I've read many Books on Asheville and it's History. Always, finding pictures that include our old Courthouse which burned, our City Building, and of course, the Obelisk, not once thinking bad thoughts.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I think I have a good idea that would enable the community to retain the monument while honoring the people who were enslave - Briefly I would chisel out Vances name and replaced it with the none of one on Vances slaves - of course - all researched and with a plaque to replace the Lee plaque with info thas what I would do	Nothing special - I am a retired teacher - an ordinary citizen.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am a white mental health and addictions therapist in the Asheville area who is married to a black, law enforcement agent. Advocating for the dismantling of our racist history is something I find important and I believe I can bring a certain mindset and mentality to a taskforce. I excel at connecting people to things, moderating, and helping process volatile situations. I believe that if Asheville would like to pronounce itself as a beacon of progressivism in the south then this should be something that needs to happen sooner than later.	I am a mental health/addictions therapist who is trained in conflict resolution. I can help the communication process stay professional and respectful. I have been a part of multiple task forces for several places of employment in the area including RHA (behavioral health urgent care implementation, and Homeward Bound)
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I grew up in New Orleans. I have a large extended family of both white, black, and mulatto cousins. I went through the 1960s and 1970s at Oberlin College In Ohio, and patrticipated in voter registration drives primarily in Selma and in New Orleans. The Vance historical sites honor a man who was hugely important to former slaves and former owners. North Carolina had to rebuild after the war for both blacks and whites to survive and prosper. Current residents of Buncombe County should remember the challenges of putting the state back together after a brutal war.	I am age 73, retired, and white. I have the time and the ability to discuss issues unemotionally. I advised thousands of clients in the investments and financial planning for 40 years.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am interested in serving with other representatives of Buncombe county, to help make the right decisions about the monuments. I would like to provide a voice and help shape the future of the county and how monuments should be handled. I think overall there are many voices on all sides regarding this issue and I think I can bring a neutral voice to the discussion and help shephard the right decisions for the county and the residents.	I work for the largest health care company, Aetna/CVS and I have led very large diversity projects in the organization. I have been the NC Chair for diversity and LGBTQ team which reports to the CEO. I have also led a large group with BCBS Florida. I have worked with CMS on the taskforce for implementing new insurance regulations on billing and coding.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I want to help make downtown a place where African American citizens will be able to walk in peace and not have to be afraid of statutes that have made their lives miserable and tormented them for decades. I want to help them put something in place that everyone can walk by and not have to feel like they need to run away. I want to help city of Asheville understand that these monuments don't need to cause anymore pain then they already have.	Technologically advanced, poll making and taking.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I grew up in Sequoyah County Oklahoma, the western end of the Trail of Tears to which Native Americans were moved from here. The racism was horrible and I had little awareness. Since then I have become aware of both subtle and extreme racism and I would like to do what I can about it. I agree with the charge of this committee and want to help address it. I see memorializing accomplishments of African Americans in our area as a step toward progress with racism.	I believe that being a psychologist can be a special qualification or experience for this task in that that training and experience can contribute to a helpful sensitivity and understanding.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	I wish to be a representative voice of my local area. I want the task force to have a mixture of opinions that can come together to reach a fair and logical outcome that reflects the thoughts of the local people.	I served in the Air Force from 81- 85, where I served proudly and was honorably discharged. I had the opportunity to work closely with service members from all walks of life, creed, and ethnic background. We came together with a unified vision of protecting our country and the people that live freely there. I then worked as a owner/operator of my own trucking business, where again I successfully worked with people all across the country. Making meaning full connections based on peoples work ethics and character.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I had been visiting the Ashville area for 25 years before retiring to Asheville in January, 2016. I have bought a home and am a full-time resident living in Weaverville. I am most definitely committed to the Buncombe County community. I believe that it is time to remove this Confederate monument to bring peace and racial justice to Buncombe County.	I had been visiting the Ashville area for 25 years before retiring to Asheville in January, 2016. I have bought a home and am a full-time resident living in Weaverville. I am most definitely committed to the Buncombe County community. I believe that it is time to remove this Confederate monument to bring peace and racial justice to Buncombe County.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I believe that in this country we are created equal. We have differences but we must respect those differences because that is the true greatness of the American people. I am an older American, have been in the US Army in Viet Nam where all races fought and died for our country. All blood is red and all people should feel they have equal rights. I feel that any unjust object or unjust laws must be amended to correct those inequalities ASAP.	My grand parents came to this country to work to make a better life for themselves and their children. In doing so they helped create a better country for all Americans, both those who immigrated here and those who were born in the US. I want to help at this time to heal any negative feelings from this prominent monument in downtown Asheville. I feel my own personal feelings will guide me in a team setting to aid in presenting a positive view on this current task.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	First, I happen to believe that this task force will doing some work that will make a significant impact on aligning Asheville with its values and culture in 2020. I believe this is an opportunity to replace a symbol that divides with one that unites. This is the time for the removal/repurpose of this monument and it must be done well if it is to accomplish the intended goals without creating potentially damaging consequences. An intelligent, thoughtful, caring and prudent approach could contribute to positive lasting change in this community.	Professionally, I have spent my career leading both for profit and nonprofit organizations that serve a variety of constituencies, and in the CEO/Executive Director role, have created and participated in many committees, task forces and boards that wrestled with complex and often challenging issues and circumstances. In terms of civic involvement, in East Windsor, New Jersey in the early 2000s, I was appointed by the mayor to serve on a task force dedicated to creating an action plan following the discovery of a Native American archeological site in the community. In nearby Hightstown, New Jersey, I was appointed by the mayor to serve on a task force to explore purchase of a new site for its municipal police and fire departments. In 2001, I was named Outstanding Citizen of the Year by Hightstown for my efforts on this committee and other community contributions. I remain very involved with the Cherokee Nation, and have been paying very close attention to the removal of similar Confederate

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Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	In my opinion, this process is long overdue. I grew ur: in Madison County in an all white, southern baptist community. Looking around our community, I see many landmarks that celebrate white heritage. It would be an honor to participate in the process of celebrating people of color who have made meaningful contributions to our community such as James Vester Miller.	In Reno, NV I participated in the Leadership program which made meaningful contribtuions to local Non-Proft organizations. I have engaged in fund raising and research, community organization and outreach. By trade, I am a trust accountant for a local law firm. I could help with budgeting, research, financial planning and organization.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Hi. It's history. I feel we should remove and place it at his home place at the Historic Vance Birthplace in Weaverville NC. This putting it into a historic setting and not on prominent display downtown. Thank you for your consideration	The Vance Birthplace was my first job at age 17. Also I am LGBT
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	This is a golden opportunity to do something unique and positive. Removing the obelisk doesn't solve any of the existing problems we have as a nation or as residents of WNC. And, it doesn't erase what happened in the past. We should be able to come up with a solution that takes advantage of this chance to tell the story of what Zebulon Vancedid during his life and what he thought about African-Americans.	| was a reporter for newspapers and magazines for several years so |'m used to interviewing people and taking good notes. | grew up mostly in Maryland and Virginia and went to intergrated schools. At the time | didn't understand why my Black friend in band wasn't in the same CORE classes with me. Now | do. | was a flight attendant for 25 years and traveled around America and the world seeing how other people live. Every country has it problems. Some deal with them better than others and some just pretend nothing is wrong. | volunteered at the Vance Birthplace a few times. There is a lot of history | have yet to learn.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I have cared deeply about the Pack Square Park area since I worked for the consulting firm responsible for the fundraising campaign to rebuild the park from 2004-2006. I understand its leverage in tourism, and its controversy. I'm interested because I believe it should be framed as a historic opportunity to leverage both the monument, and the opportunity to change it, to drive even more value for the local economy. I wrote about this weeks ago: https://www.seanmcdonald.blog/blog/vance-monument-amp-investment-mindset	Locally, over the past twenty plus years, I've worked with MAPS, Our Voice, UNC-A, WNC AIDS Project, and other organizations as a volunteer or ally. I received community leadership awards from AdvantageWest, and I was the first entrepreneur to bring the prestigious NC IDEA grant funding to WNC. I've also twice brought global venture capital to the region, employing mostly knowledge workers at high salaries. I've served in leadership or on the board of The Bob Moog Foundation, HATCH Asheville (the creative arts festival from 2010- 2013), and The Asheville Affiliates. I also live back and forth between Los Angeles and Asheville. My work as an artist has been featured in eight countries, and in 2014 was the featured art at Univision's gold sponsor part of Art Basel, where I developed the mural that hangs in the entryway to Univision's headquarters to this day. My art sells for mid five figures, and I've been a creative director for brands including Coca-Cola, and Intel sponsored me as an artist in residence, providing nearly a
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am a former educator and have been well-aware of the historical significance of the Vance Monument. In order for Americans of all races to unite together to make our country one in which all persons may excel and achieve, it is time to acknowledge that symbols of any nature which run contrary to the values on which this country was founded should no longer be front and foremost in public places. Museums should be used for displaying our past, be it glorious or be it shameful. I believe that it is simply our nation's crossroads at which we must set aside the past, not by sanitizing it, but not glorifying it either. A peaceable solution must be found which will allow Asheville's citizens to become proud of our beautiful city. . . The Land of the Sky was once our moniker and I would love to be a part of restoring that beautiful reputation again.	34 Years as an Educator, 27 years in the classroom and 7 years as an administrator at a local high school, retired. Former President 2 years, Vice- President 2 years, and Editor of the North Carolina Foreign Language Association (FLANC) for a total of 15 years. Shelton House and North Carolina Museum of Handicrafts Board of Directors 4 years, current Haywood County Historical and Genealogical Society Vice- President 2 years, current Rockefeller Foundation Evaluator for Language Study Abroad 2 years Regent of the Ruth Davidson NSDAR 2 years, current Founder of the Haywood County Schools Spelling Bee- 2 years Sponsor of the Junior National Honor Society for WJHS- 2 years Secretary and Parliamentarian of the American Clan Lindsay Scottish Organization 4 years Secretary of the Ridgeview Homeowners Board of Directors 2 years

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a professional historian the Vance Monument Task Force is in my area of expertise— History and Civil Rights. I wrote my dissertation on American Indian sovereignty. Much of my emphasis/research was on civil rights/race relations in America between the federal government and Native American tribes. I feel that my background would be an asset to the Task Force because in many ways this is a question of how to move this country forward after 400+ years of unjust treatment for people of color. Through research and excellent storytelling we could set a standard for removing monuments that could serve as a model for America. I would be honored to serve with my other members to forge a new beginning.	As a professional historian the Vance Monument Task Force is in my area of expertise— History and Civil Rights. Much of my emphasis/research was on civil rights/race relations in America between the federal government and Native American tribes. Through research and excellent storytelling we could set a standard for removing monuments that could serve as a model for America. List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.* I have a Ph.D. In American History from the University of Southern California. My career has been working with clients who own collections that need to be organized to be placed into a museum or other institution. My research, writing, and excellent communication skills would be a nice fit for the Task Force. A brief list of some of my projects: MARILYN MONROES ESTATE. In October 2007, the Strasberg Family, heirs to Marilyn
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I want to help with this because I love Downtown Asheville and its history. I live on Patton Ave and when I walk out my front door I can see the Vance Monument. Ive studied Asheville's Architecture and spend part of my week every week walking around downtown and learning about every nook and cranny. I understand the need for change and think change can come without getting rid of our obelisk. I think It can be repurposed and still remain the central meeting spot for our city.	Im a retired Coach from Western Carolina Univ. I have a place next to the Thirsty Monk on Patton Ave. History is my life and Asheville and its history is the place I love. I think I will bring a different perspective because I supplement my income as a historian and dealer in Civil War era antiquities. This removal is gonna be controversial, but I understand the need for it. I think I will be someone who understands some of the folks who are going to be pretty upset about all of this. I know that being on this committee will cause me to lose some friends who are totally opposed to the change, but Im willing for that to happen.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	As a historian who researches the post-Civil War history of western North Carolina, including Asheville and Buncombe County, I believe that I have a wealth of historical knowledge that is important to this discussion. I have also written about Zebulon Vance in popular memory. On a professional level, I also believe that it is an important part of an academic's work to serve and engage the public.	Associate Professor of History at East Tennessee State University (expert on 19th century American history) Author of Reconstruction's Ragged Edge: The Politics of Postwar Life in the Southern Mountains (UNC Press, 2016; a study of Reconstruction, 1865- 1880, in western North Carolina) I have extensive knowledge of historical events, documents, and figures in western North Carolina during the 19th century, particularly regarding the Civil War Era and emancipation President, Mountain History & Culture Group (a non-profit support board working with the Vance Birthplace State Historic Site)

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	These are monumental decisions (sorry for the pun) that will affect history and generations to come. It cannot be a decision based on emotion or temporal events but must be considered with great thought, deliberation, and balance. My personal idea is for it to be repurposed as a monument to Free Speech. I think it is problematic to have monuments honoring men due to their inevitable failings; instead it could be a monument to the spirit of Frederick Douglass or the many nameless heroes of many races and peoples fighting for equality keeping with the Asheville tradition of free expresssion there. Perhaps artists could paint it in rotation of sorts... Douglass: “To suppress free speech is a double wrong. It violates the rights of the hearer as well as those of the speaker. It is just as criminal to rob a man of his right to speak and hear as it would be to rob him of his money” “A Plea for Free Speech in Boston,” 1860	I am a stalwart public high school teacher passionate for equality and justice in public school and community opportunities. I grew up in a family of educators and my father was a young principal who worked to integrate schools in the 60's and 70's. I take pride in listening and considering all points of view; seeking balance and calm in contentious situations; believe caring and fairness are most important human traits; and I love history, art, and civil discourse.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	As an African American Man born and raised in Asheville North Carolina, I firmly believe that you cannot erase our history by destroying monuments, Zebulon Vance was the Governor of North Carolina in addition to being a confederate Officer. The monuments tell a story of our history, however good/bad it may be, it is our history. Rather than destroy/move these monuments, perhaps we balance these monuments with African American Historians as well	I am born and raised in Asheville, North Carolina. I am a historian and have done my research on my geneology. I have always been fascinated with our history and am very educated in the Confederate/US Civil wars and other wars, especially those that involved african americans
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	To save Vance Monument and the History of Asheville and Buncombe County	I worked in Health Care for over 40 years supervising in excess of 1000 employees. I have excellent negotiating and arbitration skills and conflict intervention experience. As a Regional Director of Operations I dealt with Employees, Families, and was required to maintain State and Federal compliance with all Regulatory requirements.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	II believe that Asheville has a once-in a-lifetime opportunity to collaborate and create a physical manifestation of the contemporary culture and community that now exists amongst its citizens. Whether the monument is repurposes, renamed, or rebuilt, as a symbol of progress and compromise this monument is a declaration of who the city is and who belongs here. I feel not just moved to attempt to participate, but an obligation to reflect the very aspects of the city that drew me to it in the first place.	I hold bachelor's degree in secondary education - history from Western Carolina University and focused on regional post-Civil War history for my minor. I am currently the Supported Employment director and Mission Health Project SEARCH program director for The Arc of North Carolina – both of which are entirely focused on assisting and supporting individuals with intellectual or developmental disabilities find and retain competitive employment. I am on the board of directors for The Joseph Initiative, a local non-profit focusing on creating intergenerational networking opportunities for our community’s youth. I believe this combination of education and experience gives me a unique perspective on both the past and present of the region and what it means to those who live here.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I feel this is a very important decision for our community and cannot be taken lightly. The decision of this taskforce should be to come up with a solution that is as unifying as possible, which will reflect the diversity of Asheville. Whether removing/replacing or repurposing the monument, I believe the end result should be a reflection on the character of Asheville and a place where people will want to gather, and will be an Asheville landmark to take us into the future. I want to listen to and represent my fellow citizens to try to come up with a satisfying conclusion for the city we all love.	I feel I excel at collaboration and at listening. I have always been good at brainstorming in groups. I am good at coming up with creative ideas, but even better at building onto someone else's idea and helping take it to a new level. As a result, I have been put in important positions throughout my work and volunteer career. I am very involved in my faith community and, as such, realize the importance of love and respect for all my neighbors. I know these qualities will be of importance for a project of this magnitude, of which so many people have strong feelings.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Preserving historical and culturally identifiable landmarks and other public properties is, I feel, very important. Naming and the representation of such icons must be considered with not only our current society, but with an eye towards how these actions will be evaluated by our descendants. I am semi-retired now, but have a track record of advocacy and hands-on roles in historic preservation, oversight of public records and perpetuation of telling a community's story.	Prior to retirement, I was: -- Board member of the Historic Southern indiana Project -- Board member, Governor's Commission for the Oversight of Public Records (Indiana) -- Board chair, Harmonie Associates -- an advocacy and philanthropic non-profit in New Harmony, Indiana -- Board member, Workingmen's Institute Library and Musuem -- Recipeint of Evansville, Indiana, Historic Preservation Award for advocacy of business involvement in historic preservation -- Vice president of operations, Senior Citizens Inc, Savannah GA
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I am in interested in architecture, in the progression of styles. So much of Pack Square has been lost, indeed a whole block lost to the banal IM Pei monolith on one side of the square. An obelisk has its origin in north African Egypt. An obelisk I antiquity. I think it's very interesting that an ancient form can have layers of meaning. The Vance Monument is now part of the built environment of Pack Square. So much has been lost. The obelisk as architecture has enough strength that it can be reinterpreted as something other than a monument to a confederate governor.	I am a trained and registered interior designer. I understand how to work with form and content. I am a supporter of many arts organizations devoted to art history and the preservation of buildings and monuments, namely Save Venice, Inc. and the The Versailles Foundation. Save Venice is restoring an historic gondola in a 17th century Venetian palazzo, the collection of which includes statues Moors depicted as slaves. I understand how to contextualize difficult subject matter. Difficult subject matter exists. I can also draw on experts like Xavier Solom at the Fricl who curated the George Washington Show last year (another loaded subject) as well as Frederick Ilchman of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I recognize that in order to facilitate it's removal or re-purpose, work needs to be done towards planning and execution to ensure that it's a smooth and orderly transition.	Being both a software programmer and an event coordinator, my skills include planning, facilitation, and clear communication. As an event coordinator of market-style events here in Asheville I'm also familiar with the evaluation of artists and incorporating a racial equity focus.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Historic preservation is a devoted lifelong commitment of mine. I serve on two city commissions and i believe the subject monuments come under our perview.	I have been on the Historic Resources Commission for several years. I also serve on the Asheville Public Art and Culture Commission. I have served the City of Asheville through it's Sister Cities program; established the Osogbo, Nigeria Sister City in 2006. Through Asheville Sister Cities we garnered two grants through the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. The AUPAP $100,000 grant to install 29 wells in Osogbo, Nigeria and the SAI $100,000 grant to bring the Atelowo Maternity clinic up to World Health Organization standards. My non-profit, Zamani Refuge African Culture Center has provided support to communities of color from URTV, through being an umbrella organization for various local non-profit projects and artists such as the Sacred Space Tool library which paid artists of color to conceive and produce the art for the walls and monitor the displays.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	This is an important step in the process of ending systemic racism. Asheville will be in a unique position to be recognized as one of the first cities in America to take this key step.	President & founder of Asheville Cat Weirdos Emergency Fund, 2020 recipient of the Governor's award for volunteer service, community leader.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	Live here since 1996 and so I am concerned about our community. I have been participating as a resident in community life for a long time.	Observer of, and participant in, social, political, and cultural development of Asheville since 1996. By training a Sociologist, I also teach about race and ethnic relations in the US and elsewhere. I reach at UNCA Grew up in Germany and witnessed first hand and throughout education, how a nation seeks to reconcile with its difficult past. Traveled across the globe and learned form a lot of cultures.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	No	The monuments in question have been in place for years & acknowledge part history & people of this area who participated in that history - The monuments are a tribute to those people -	I have live in the Asheville's Buncombe Co since 1951 & practiced law from '51 to 1992 - I was president of the Asheville Jaycees (1959 - 60) & chairman of the Bunc Co. Human Relation Council that desegregated Asheill without any harmful demonstrations or distractions -
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I would like to be involved in preserving our local history while being fair and inclusive to all those involved in this history. Some history can be quite ugly while some is beautiful and I believe that somewhere in between is a balance that can hold us together while we move forward for our children's future together.	I have lived in the south for my entire life and have studied southern food and culture for a lot of that time. Without the influence of African food, culture, and farming techniques we might be as bland as say, Chicago that's known mostly for a hot dog.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County	Yes	I believe my local historical knowledge would be very beneficial to the Taskforce. Understanding, as minutely as possible, my own priviledge of being white, is something that I try to understand and be aware of daily. This work is part of that. I can be of value, though white, in hearing and valuing the black communities concerns. I look forward to working with the community on what we want visually to adorn our public square and that will speak to all of our community. I also think this is a huge historical step that the city and county are undertaking, and I would be proud to be a part of this work.	I am a retired Buncombe County employee, having served in the North Carolina Room, Pack Memorial Library for over 27 years. I would consider myself very knowledgeable of Asheville history. My focus of the last five years while serving as Manager of the N.C. Room, was the history of Asheville's black community. With the goal of diversifying the collection and collecting the often neglected history of the black community, I began the Black Asheville History Project, which continues to be the main project of the collection. We attended several Stephens-Lee High School reunions where we interviewed alumni. We undertook hour long interviews with various elders in the community. In 2018 I initiated and led two programs to provide the community with information regarding the Civil War and the Reconstruction era, with a focus on the Vance Monument.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe I am able to represent a young person/s perspective. I have lived in AVL since 2011, and worked mostly in the service industry in many major restaurants. I am able to provide a large level of community outreach from the 18-35 demographic.	I have studied art in college (my degree is, however, in environmental science) and have great appreciation for Asheville's artist culture. Between my ability to create outreach for community input and outreach for potential artists could help for input into the conversation.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	Since moving to Asheville in 2018, I have been looking for a way to get involved in the community that takes advantage of my experience. I was born in Asheville and it has been a touchstone in the life of my family for decades, so it would be an honor to be able to serve the city/county in this way.	As a professor, I have researched and published in the area of public memory, specifically memorials, monuments, and museums in Charleston, SC. I also worked with the Charleston Museum to include information about Sarah and Angelina Grimke (abolitionists and women's rights activists) in their childhood home (the Heyward Washington House). From this work, I understand the power of such visuals to create public memory -- to both represent and create the way a community wants to present itself and remember itself.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in being on this task force to ensure that there is adequate representation of African Americans.	I am an African American professional who has worked with others from many different ethnic/ diverse groups throughout my 25 years within the federal government. I bring a unique skillset of being objective in my view point, an active listener and a challenger of non-fact based ideals. I hold a Master of Science in Business Management. My life experiences as a woman of color gives me a perspective that can be shared openly and honestly amongst any group.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	The driving factors of my desire to serve on this Taskforce are a combination of my own personal history, my years of experience studying and researching this subject, and a deep desire to see systemic justice for the Black community locally and nationwide. First of all, I have researched social psychology at the masters level, which included analysis of public space and research on social change, social justice, and the role of symbols and art in bringing these to fruition. The analysis of confederate monuments and their role in cultural identity has been something I have explored within the institution. My career itself has been a mix of social justice initiatives and work in the museum sector, including experience working in historic interpretation in Asheville, shaped by my interest in the community role of public spaces. In addition to this, I have a personal connection to this site through my family's lineage. Evident by my last name, I am related to the Zebulon Baird Vance, and his is a legacy I am forced to reckon with. Since moving	I completed my MSc in Social and Cultural Psychology at London School of Economics, where my thesis work focused on the study of symbols embedded in American history and identities across differing sociological contexts, and how these symbols are perpetuated through physical space in forms such as art, public space, and monuments. Key topics included social movements, political psychology, and intercultural dialogue; and led me to conducting extensive theoretical research as well as field research. During this time, I led interviews among participants to gather information about how Americans' personal sense of identity and history was connected to their perspective on images and symbols that embodied their own American experiences. In these interviews, many people brought up symbology present in the nation's grandest monuments, iconic images along the National Mall in Washington DC, as well as referenced monuments to the Confederacy still present across the south - often in negative terms that reflected feeling disconnected
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I feel that this Taskforce is an important part of moving forward in the correct direction for our city and county. I love Asheville, and I want our community to feel proud of our city's decisions. I passionately feel that positive change should be made, and I would like to personally see it come to fruition, rather than sit back and hope that others make the same decisions I would. When I saw that applications were being accepted, I knew this was my chance to impact Asheville in a loving and positive way.	As a student, I was both a journalist and in speech and debate, and Congressional Debate was my specialty. This was years and years ago now, but what it brought forth in me was an understanding of the power of truth, research, and the power of the people to impact the world in a positive way. I think my journalism and debate backgrounds will be beneficial to the Taskforce, as I will properly and thoroughly be able to research before our meetings, and Congressional Debate also allowed me to understand a lot of the legal jargon and inner workings of government, as we were writing bills and resolutions in the proper style and professionally debating their pros and cons. This knowledge helped me in my days at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, and every day since graduation 7 years ago, as it allows me to gather information in an unbiased manner, firmly rooted in truth and understanding of the greater good. It also prepared me to be a strong public speaker.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am student of history, and in particular, Asheville's history, including the history of its African- American community. What happens at the Vance Monument site will have historical ramifications that will outlive us all, and I would like to help shape that history.	For 14 years, I served on the board of the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County, including two terms each as president and treasurer. Over that time, I developed extensive experience and education in historic preservation, and in particular, the unique built environment of this city and county. Through the PSABC, I advocated for the preservation of endangered historic properties throughout the county, including through tax credit programs and listing on the National Register and/or local historic designation. I also live and work in the historic neighborhood of Montford, which has led to numerous interactions with the local Historic Resources Commission, whose duty it is to safeguard those resources. Over that same period of time, I have worked with and volunteered for local organizations dedicated to racial equity, inclusion and healing, including the Stop The Violence Coalition, the Racial Justice Coalition, the Burton Street Community Center, Faith 4 Justice, Just Us, the Buncombe County Re-
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	This is my home city. I grew up here in Asheville NC, was educated through the public school system from the first through the twelveth grade; and graduated from NC A&T State University prior to military service. Was a Boy Scout during my younger years of youth development. After service, continued work in Europe and at the Pentagon as Chief, Personal and Security - Operations Division in the Operation Directorate, Headquarters, U.S. Army-Penatgon. Retired, and further serve as a Deacon, Mt Zion Missionary Baptist Church of Asheville NC, Inc. Basileus, Upsilon Omicron Chapter of Western North Carolina and Vice President, Asheville Alumni Chapter of NC A&T State University Aggies. Serve as an associate member of the Block Neighborhood Community Development Committee and organizer of the Annual Asheville Car Show(s). Serve an active Mentor (Former Veterans Treatment Court Mentor Coordinator) of the North Carolina Buncombe County Veterans Treatment Court (VTC), and an active Director of the VTC of WNC Foundation. Active and concerned member for the history	Serves as a member of the Pentagon's Army Operations Center's "9-11 Task Force". Serves as an active member of Asheville's Block Community Development Committee. Active church member at Mt Zion Missionary Baptist Church, member of the Security Ministry Team, Memorial Club, Church Greeters, Transportation Ministry and Senior Missionary Ministry,

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe that what happens to the obelisk is very important to Asheville's future. I want to see an end result that includes the past, while clearly looking towards a better future. We can do this. I am anxious to see this issue settled, and to see the wonderful creative augmentations take shape, while permitting us to continue to work on the myriad other aspects of racial inequity that need to be addressed in our city.	I wasn't born and raised in Asheville, but I got here before I could vote. From 1974 to 1980, I was the Custodian of the North Carolina and Thomas Wolfe Collections at Pack Memorial Public Library. Some of those years the library was located in its building on Pack Square. In 1976, I was a founding member of the Preservation Society, and in 1978 I was the first Vice-Chair of the Historic Resource Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County. I left Buncombe briefly, for law school at Duke and to NYC for three years to work for a law firm and save my money to buy a big old house in Asheville in 1986. I still live here. I have been very involved in the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County, serving as President, Vice President, Secretary and Board Member. I have been appointed to the Historic Resources Commission by both the City and the County, and have close to twenty years of service on the Commission, including Chairing the commission in the 1990's. In addition to the knowledge I gained of North Carolina history
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am an Asheville native and architect and have a good understanding of Asheville's history. When I first learned of the formation of this task force, this idea has tugged at my heart. Community service has been and is an important part of who I am personally and professionally. It has fueled my desire for a better community since returning home from college and I have served it ever since. It would be my privilege and honor to be a part of the task force and offer whatever gifts I have to the process that will unfold.	I have had a variety of experiences that will allow me to contribute at a high level in the areas of design, working with groups, and public input process. A few highlights include: - As an original member of the Asheville Urban Trail Committee, I designed approximately half of the stations on the trail and worked directly with artists and contractors to implement the work. This gave me insight to the importance of public art and storytelling through design. - Having served on and chaired commissions such as HRC and AARRC, I have gained experience working with groups and implementing their goals. In these settings, I learned how important to listen and build consensus around important technical (design review) and advisory/policy issues. - In my professional career, I have had the opportunity to help lead public input processes. Notably, as part of the master planning team for Lee Walker Heights, I worked directly with residents in workshop settings to understand their needs and goals, collaborate with them through design charettes, and gain

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am retired. Have lived here for 14 years and have learned about the history of Black Asheville and feel its' contribution to Asheville has been undermined, diminished . As evidenced by newcomers typically asking "are there any African Americans living here?" I think a re- imagining, of Pack Square will answer the question to an extent and give recognition and hope to our current Black families . My friends have accused me of being very creative, a good problem solver & a reliable hard worker. I spend alot of time downtown ..pre- Covid you would find me at Fine Arts Movie Theatre at least weekly, a few favorite lunch spots each week, NC Stage, ACT & other theate productions. I attend most of our down town art Gallery exhibit openings, and love our outdoor festivals & concerts! Also roof top bars I find are fun places for Birthday celebrations. I am also a fan of some of music venues. I host a radio talk show on avlfm 103.3fm called DREAMERS & DOERS, which has given me an opportunity to meet alot of folks from the arts, non-profits & entrepreneurial sectors. Also, thru my church, I have for the last two	Aware of the stories of some of the Black Comminity. I know some of the very talented artists of Color & I am familar with their work, style. I have travelled throughout the USA & some abroad. I hold a wide view of culures andcart. I have served on boards & organizations and feel.comfortable w/ workings of groups, goals, building consensus. I was a sales & manager Trainer for a large RE franchise- I know how to make a ssles presentation.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	We have the opportunity to come together, take stock, and express what our shared values and beliefs are as a community at this moment. Ideally this taskforce has the intention to look inequality in the face and strive to overcome it, rather than allow the symbols from a brutally oppressive past to continue shape our shared public spaces and collective memory. This is an opportunity for validation, but also hope and growth. I am a white woman, and as such I do not have the same sensitivity to the exclusion that people of color have experienced for so long in our public spaces, that said I would greatly value the opportunity to serve and strive to reclaim these spaces, most especially for the most under served and vulnerable among us.	I am an architectural designer and construction manager. I have extensive experience with research, graphic design, architectural design and detailing, and construction detailing and management.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I have only recently become aware of my white privilege. I recognize the problem the monument currently poses and want to see it solved in a way that satisfies as many interest groups as possible.	I am willing to listen and learn. I have an open mind. While I am not particularly creative, I am able to generate multiple ideas to help synthesize possible solutions.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	We owe it to ourselves and our community and our shared history to shine a light on the difficult corners of our past as a means of forging healing ties for the future. As a native of Asheville who cares deeply about he heart and soul of our city as well as promoting opportunities for wealth and health in all our communities I feel strongly that this discussion offers a great opportunity to showcase our best and engage in the tough discussions around historical wrongs, research to cultivate fully informed perspectives and exhibiting the leadership so required to take decisive action on difficult topics. The monument itself as a static structure has been a landmark and gathering place in the city and marks a traditional crossroads that has set the foundation for our place as a meeting of peoples throughout millennia. This crossroads and it's potential as a landmark place now present us with a new opportunity to address historical wrongs, investigate the full story of history and create a model of our values at this place and time and moving ahead.	I'm a licensed Architect with 14 years experience working on a range of project types. I also hold a degree in Historic Preservation and Community Planning from the College of Charleston. As an Asheville native who has also lived and spent significant time outside the City I feel I've generated a perspective that could be valuable to this project. Since my return to the City 7 years ago I have invested my own time and resources to causes I feel are meaningful within our city through board, volunteer and advocacy work with organizations like Green Opportunities, Mountain Housing Opportunities, YMI, Stephens Lee Alumni Association, Riverside Development Group, ACS, Racial Justice Coalition and the Asheville Design Center. Growing up in Asheville I was exposed to much of the mythology surrounding the "lost cause" myth and conscious that I am a descendant of Confederate soldiers on both side of my family lineage. Through time outside WNC working in locations like Nicaragua, California and Cuba I have found a balance in perspective that has informed my
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	It is my personal feeling that we as a community can come together to select a course of action that reflects our current sentiments, and stand as a testament to our ability to adapt and advance, setting forth a message to future generations that change is not only acceptable but necessary. Although I am a white, cisgendered male, I am interested in helping to serve on the task force.	Well, in all truth, I have none.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe it is my civic duty to be active in appropriate actions that effect the city and many who come to visit here. I have long been concerned about this monument that is at the same site where the slaves were auctioned. I also have marveled at the obelisk and feel it is has beauty and can be a powerful symbol for Asheville if repurposed.	I am a Social Worker and have skill in working with groups to build consensus. I come from Guilford College in Greensboro where the history of the Underground Railroad has been enlivened by creating simulations that help people better understand the social actions that took place and fought the legal institution of slavery through racial cooperation. I have lived in Cape Coast Ghana and facilitate diverse groups experiencing the beginning of the middle passage from the dungeons that exist there where people were stored before the forced migration to North Carolina and into chattel slavery. I have visited obelisks in Aksum Ethiopia so I also can connect to the historical significance of this monument when re-contextualized.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	Confederate monuments are not all alike but most represent values that are now inappropriate in their positions of honor in our community. Thorough examination of each example must be conducted, using fair and balanced criteria, from a diverse group of concerned citizens.	I attended some of the Vance symposium at UNCA in 2017. I am a board member of the National LGBTQ Task Force, but not representing that organization. Graduate of UVa Architecture School.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a young, white-passing woman in Asheville, I'm interested in representing a younger generation that wants to stand in solidarity with BIPOC in our community and create a better future for not only ourselves but generations to come.	As an eager, young journalist in the City of Asheville, I have created many connections through Ashville FM and UNCA to individuals in this community that have become leaders throughout this movement. I have also been attending recent protests and demonstrations, which has given me a real perspective on what the people at those protests are asking for and the root cause of why we are out there, every day, protesting.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I want to live in a world where all races are treated equally. I believe removing monuments that uplift white supremacy will be a step in that direction. I would like to be apart of that movement.	I have multiple Associates degrees and am a software developer.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I would like to see some cool heads prevail and lose the vestiges of the Civil War and what it represented. It is my belief that moving on is an excellent idea; it's more than past due. Also, we should consider the city taxpayers, local history, visual impact and more. I'm looking forward to the challenge.	Geography major in College, have lived all over the country- North, South, East and West, Traveled extensively as an Airline Pilot (retired), Spent many years in a crew leadership role as a Captain and arbitrated many disputes between either crew members or passengers or both. Currently volunteer at the literacy council as a tutor.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am concerned to find a proper solution to the question of monuments that are offensive to significant portions of our population. I believe that I can play a meaningful role, and would like to do so.	I practiced law for 37 years, specializing in the areas of land use planning, and real estate. My practice was in New Jersey for seven years, and then in the very rural Adirondack Mountains of northern New York State. I have been retired for four years, living in Buncombe County, and now in the City of Asheville. I have served as the municipal a of three New York State municipalities, including representation of the Planning Boards and Zoning Boards of those municipalities. As a small town attorney, my practice routinely involved community involvement, gathering information, considering the interests of various community groups and stakeholders. I believe that I thrived as a municipal and private attorney for 30 years, because I was fair, transparent, and honest in my judgments, and respectful of all people. I served my former communities as a long time member of the local Boy Scout Council Executive Board, including three year-long terms as Council President. I served on a task force ofthe local
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am a relatively new resident of Asheville area/Woodfin, NC. I am a retired attorney who worked for 34 years for a national medical malpractice insurance company. I think that I have the capability to provide value added input towards a much needed historic decision, that I feel should be focused on bringing our diverse community closer together. We can no longer ignore the need to turn the past on his chapter, and look forward to a more harmonious future.	Undergrad from Northern Kentucky University-1974 Law degree from Salmon P. Chase Law School-1978-Passed KY Bar in 1978, and Ohio Bar in 1982 34 years Vice President with The Medical Protective Company, with extensive experience in numerous mediation and arbitrations procedures
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I feel Asheville is inherently segregated and I feel the move to remove a symbol with such heavy connotations could help ease this sense of white supremacy that enshrouds Asheville. Ultimately, I want to be a part of changing Asheville for the better. I do not wish to be complicit with how the city currently is. I want to help usher in a new diverse Asheville.	Masters of Art in New Media art.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I have had a longstanding desire to serve the community and have done so in many different contexts over the years (see below). Furthermore, I enjoy committee work and assisting groups in reaching reasonable consensus on complex issues.	I served as Member and Chair of the Asheville City School Board from 1987 through 1995, and as Chair of the Asheville Regional Airport for 6 ½ years (term of Board Membership 2006-2014), in addition to many other community involvements. My legal background (46 years as an attorney) would be of benefit to the Task Force. I was President of the Buncombe Bar Association 2000 – 2001.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	To honor those who are deserving of such a monument.	I have worked in indigent care in Asheville for the last 7 years and I am very aware of the systemic racism that exist within our mountain town. Having worked for both ABCCM and AMCHC I have had the privilege of servicing those who generally go unnoticed let alone recognized and venerated for their accomplishments despite how small or large they may be.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	It is a civic duty to apply or in some way act as a resource to those who do become task force members. As the retired Executive Director of the UNC Asheville Center for Diversity Education, I have been engaged with the history related to what is now called "Pack Square" since I learned that the site of the monument was on the footprint of the courthouse where the Bills of Sale for enslaved people were recorded. It is a heinous offense to have 6 markers within a few block radius about that time period with no mention of enslavement (Vance, Lee, Gettysburg, and Chickamauga, along with historical markers for the Confederate Armory and Eagle Hotel which were both run on forced labor). Doubly heinous is that no mention is made of the foundational work African Americans did to build Asheville - roads, railroad beds, factories, hotels, and on and on. That said, I do not know the type of life experience the City and County are looking for to create the 12 person task force. If I were picking the task force, I would prioritize young people as they are the ones that are living towards and in the	In 1998, I was given a deed for a human being that my husband, who is a real estate attorney, found in the Register of Deeds microfiche collection back when it was in the basement of the old courthouse (after first passing by a painting of Nicholas Woodfin - largest slave owner in Buncombe County - as you headed down the stairs). It was a public record that ROD's are required to keep in perpetuity. That following summer 8 high school students from Asheville, Reynolds, and Roberson were hired by the Center for Diversity Education to see how many deeds they could find. They also searched the microfiche at Pack Library for articles and advertisements about African Americans. With their research, CDE created an exhibit "An Unmarked Trail: Stories of African Americans in Buncombe County 1850 - 1900" which has traveled the schools for 20 years. Through the students' research, I came to understand that the site where the Confederate Monuments sit today was once a part of the trading route of indigenous people (and later what we call The Buncombe Turnpike). By the
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am Latina and Jewish. I have faced forms of oppression throughout my life, and I see the impacts these statues still have on the community. I want to be part of this great and overdue change.	I have been vounteering as a protest and rally first aid responder for 15 years on and off. The majority of protests i have attended have involved justice for the POC community, and no real change is ever granted. It can be so absolutely frustrating. I have been an organizer/manager throughout my career. I take on volunteer projects, and I excel at bringing people together for a common goal.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I would like to see healing begin in our community, and I think this is a good start. I have been a southerner all my life, and in recent years have become acutely aware of the pain that memories of and praises for the confederacy means to African Americans. I have only in the past few years been made aware of systemic racism is all about, and would like to work toward reversing these inequities.	Have lived in Asheville 36 years; local dental society and hospital leadership; graduate of Leadership Asheville. Thriving dental practice with many patients who are African- American and people of color.. Participant for many years as a student of Patti Digh, a nationally renowned speaker, writer, and educator on racism and what needs to be done. My whole vision of what I am as a white person and how that has affected people of color has changed radically in the past 5 years because of her classes and reading assignments.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe that this has been a decision that has been lurking for a while now. It is so important to find the balance in removing the statues while still calling attention to the historical context of them. We cannot erase history, and we must start to reframe the story in truth. This is possible through enlisting the help and engagement of our community and understand the significance of the statues specifically for our African American population in Asheville. Ultimately they have a negative connotation, and being a part of the decision making process regarding how the statues are removed, relocated, repurposed, or eliminated is a large burden, but also something that is necessary, and I would be proud to be part of that decision. I grew up in the area and left for a while. Now that I am back, I would be grateful to be a part of this initiative that will affect Asheville now and in the future.	I have a master's degree in arts administration and I am working on a doctoral degree in higher education. I have done extensive research regarding confederate monuments on campuses through the higher education program and I've written about some of the solutions in other cities. I'm considering focusing my dissertation on colleges and universities who have taken early steps in removing these monuments and what they chose to do with them. In addition, through my masters program we focused class time on the discussion of these statues as art vs. civic or institutional monuments in the context of how they affect their communities. This is not a new conversation for me, and I have access to many resources that discuss this very topic and how to approach it.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	The Vance Monument does not reflect the virtues of the majority of modern day Asheville and Buncombe County residents. If it was a small monument we would not need this Taskforce; I have faith that the city and county would have taken appropriate action to have it moved. But the size presents special problems, I've thought for years that the size alone would preclude any action being taken to remove it. But I am glad I was wrong and I would like to help see it get to a new location safely and intact. I have stood there in front of the monument, like many of you, and considered how best to move it. I believe it can be safely taken down so that it can be preserved in a new location. Great efforts were taken to build a monument that would last for generations. Significant care will be required to see it moved. Where to move it? A place of study and retrospect. The Vance birthplace should be an option. Or possibly a Confederate cemetery or a Civil War site. There are certainly many options that should be thoughtfully considered.	I have led large projects involving teams of 5 to 50 persons. I have seen every one of these projects to completion. Extensive experience with remote teams including livestream and collaboration software. Tools such as Zoom, Google Meet, and Remo. Love of the arts. Extensive collector. Entrepreneurial mindset. I want to do more than just participate, I want to build.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	No	First of all, the only part of the above statement that I do not agree with is the phrase "as expeditiously as possible." I believe the future of the Vance Monument is a vitally important and LASTING decision for the City of Asheville and is not one to be rushed into, especially while emotions continue to run high. I want to serve on the Taskforce because I am irreversibly invested in the past, present and future of Asheville. I was born in Mission Hospital (1962), attended Asheville City Schools (during integration - graduating from Asheville High School in 1980) and intend to make Asheville my home for the rest of my life. My parents still live in Asheville; my son lives in Asheville (graduating from Asheville School this year), and I can trace my paternal and maternal genealogy back many generations in Buncombe County. I love the progressive, broad-minded city that Asheville has become - so much different than the city I grew up in. When people ask me where I am from, I am proud to say "Asheville," and increasingly, I find that I don't have to say "... North Carolina."	I am a lawyer and have practiced law since 1989. (I got my law degree at Wake Forest University.) Since 2002, I have practiced in the law department of Eastman Chemical Company, headquartered in Kingsport, Tennessee (roughly an hour north of Asheville). As a lawyer, I have become adept in the skills of mediating and bridge building. My job frequently involves finding common ground, compromise and being attentive to all sides of an issue. I am skilled at listening and at absorbing and understanding differing points of view. Additionally, I have been a champion of Inclusion and Diversity at Eastman. I was one of the first senior leaders at Eastman to participate (as a volunteer) in a three-day workshop called White Males as Diversity Partners. Since then, I have been involved in several employee resource groups working in support of under- represented employees at Eastman, and I have been especially involved as a leader of Eastman's employee resource group for our LGTBQ employees.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	No	I am a life-long student of North Carolina politics and history, and I have sought to understand all sides of this issue through personal research. I am a fair person, and I like to think I have some skills in mediation. If this landmark remains, I would like to find a way for us to repurpose it to represent some aspect of the history of Asheville that we can all support, not just the White or African-American history, in the same way that the stops on the Urban Trail help bring our city's history to life. More importantly, I hope that it will become a beacon to the future, representing a time that all Ashevillians came together, and finally healed the hurts, misunderstandings, and injustices that have divided us for so many years.	I am a native of Asheville, 3rd generation, with deep roots in North Carolina. I am a graduate of Duke University with a degree in political science. I am a life-long student of North Carolina politics and history. I am a current volunteer with the Asheville Downtown Association. I have extensive past volunteer experience which has brought me into relationships with people of all racial, ethnic, religious, and socio-economic backgrounds. I'm a small business owner whose livelihood depends on Asheville remaining a desirable place for people to visit. I love my city. I love all people.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As the momentum towards addressing racism across America has built up, I want to more involved directly. Simply checking the boxes of signing a petition, attending a protest, or voting is an important step to illuminating racism, but it's also not the entire solution. There is much more room for nuanced and concrete changes that can be made. I hope by the means of the removal or repurposing of this monument, it will be a reminder to our city and county to never give up the fight we've had from the birth of this nation: Liberty and Justice for ALL. We must remain dedicated to creating a strong community that is inclusive to our black and brown citizens. Right now, the Latino and Black communities of Asheville are struggling on various fronts. This needs to be a symbolic gesture that begins the City and County Government's commitment to equality and equity in education, policing, our justice system, access to Public Services, etc. I wish to be part of changing the community I have grown up in and love so dearly.	I am coming from the background of having firsthand experience as a younger person. Racism to me and my generation is not identified exclusively as use of racial slurs, but it is the subtle micro- aggressions in everyday life, that has real life ramifications. The way in which Black, Brown, and Asian students are treated in our schools cannot be accepted as the status quo. There are language barriers for immigrant families that our schools need to be better prepared and equipped to prepare these students for success, not just letting them scrape by. I have been born here and raised here, and have a dedication and commitment to the community in which I plan on continuing to be a part of for the rest of my life. I studied in Seoul, South Korea with the National Security Language Initiative with the United States Department of State as a Student Ambassador of the United States of America. While on program I extensively studied Korean language and culture. My colleagues, family, and friends in Korea taught me a great deal about the idea of race and ethnicity
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	Because I get it. I see the tears and pain. I want to be a helper. I was always taught going up - if I needed help to look for a helper. Now it is my turn to do that for this community and the population that is hurting. I relate to the mission and make sure we are an accurate depiction of the values Asheville stands behind.	I agree with the mission. I am a great listener and proactive worker. I have an eye for design. Is anyone really qualified for the project at hand. We are all learning and walking through this together. I see it a great time for a team of different individuals to come together, learn from each other all for the betterment of a staple corner in downtown Asheville.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I have been an active member in Community Health Improvement work led by Buncombe County Health and Human services for several years. I am deeply concerned about the impact that structural racism has on our community and the resulting inequities that it causes. It is unacceptable to me, the harm our systems cause Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in our community. The list of inequities is long - economic opportunity, affordable housing, academic achievement, infant mortality, diabetes mortality, life expectancy, and more. As a long time citizen (over 20 years a resident of Buncombe County) of this community, I am concerned about the future of our community. The economic and overall well-being of residents of Buncombe County it tied to shaping a new future together and intentionally disrupting the patterns that have resulted in displacement of African American residents, the shift in our economy away from manufacturing	I would bring to the task force several qualifications and/or experiences: I am a Certified Nurse Midwife and can bring the perspective of the impact that racism has on pregnant women and birth outcomes in our community. I am a trained Mediator and a former active volunteer at the Mediation Center - I have skills in listening and conflict resolution. I am a member of the Board of Resources for Resilience and have completed 2.5 years of training in Somatic Experiencing - I have a broad and deep understanding of trauma and resilience. As I mentioned above, I am a member of the Buncombe County CHIP Leadership Team and Advisory Council and Mothering Asheville, a movement to eliminate the black/white inequity in infant mortality in Buncombe County - I have a lot of experience with multi- stakeholder, collaborative work and the broader upstream/downstream public health framework. I have completed Building Bridges, foundational

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe this issue requires input from a broad based group. I am a 66 year old electrician who grew up in a Catholic orphanage. Though college educated, I have worked in the trades my whole life. I have always been aware of my white privilege and would like an opportunity to perhaps level the field a bit. I feel a monument to an African American here in North Carolina would represent a tiny step in the right direction. I have the time to devote to this and would appreciate the opportunity. Thank you for your consideration Floyd Dupree	I am very familiar with all types of construction. Is that special? I have 66 years of life experiences. That is special.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I grew up in Biltmore Village in the days of segregation and so all the questions of prejudice and racial injustice are those with which I grew up, and have been committed to overcoming and transforming all my adult life. I would look forward to working with the diversity that will be this task force, and of helping be a part of a group of civic leaders working to build a better Asheville.	I am a retired Episcopal clergyman. I have a wide range of experience having lived in Connecticut, Florida, Massachusetts, Tennessee, Georgia, New York, Paris (France), Louisiana, and Washington (State). I came back to Asheville ten years ago (having come back almost every summer since we moved away). The past ten years prior to my retirement I was the Dean of St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle, the largest Episcopal congregation in the Northwest. I was the elected head of the Seattle Church Council at the time of my retirement, and was a recognized religious leader in Seattle. For example, I conducted one of the first blessings of a same sex couple in 1995 (with the Governor and Chief of Police in attendance), before it was officially sanctioned by our church. I was given an award by the NAACP for "service to the poor," while I was in Louisiana. I was also the President of the Board of Big Brothers-Big Sisters, and have served on a variety of other non-profit boards. I took early retirement from the church and for 20 years was the head of Athletes for a Better World (ABW), a national nonprofit
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	To repurpose but not remove the monument.	As a board member of the Asheville Art Museum I am deeply involved in this community and feel that the Pack Square appearance should remain the focal point it is and renaming the obelisk to support the African-American effort would be the best solution.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I feel strongly that we as a community need to reevaluate the necessity of historical monuments to people or ideologies that represent outmoded, archaic, or downright oppressive/racist ideas or policies. As a white male, I am not overtly haunted by the Vance monument. However, as an ally for communities that have been and continue to be pushed to the margins, it is my responsibility to use my position and influence to uplift the voices of those communities. My role on the task force would be to ensure there is space at the table for the voices of those for whom the Vance monument is a continued reminder of oppression, racism, and historical white supremacy. By listening to the community and by sharing with the community the legal context by which the City might repurpose or remove the monument, I will be practicing allyship, as well as best practices of balancing fact-finding with the needs and desires of the community. Finally, since the City and County have committed to this Taskforce, it is imperative that something comes from it, and comes from it expeditiously. I am a do-er, and so would commit to a	As an outgoing board member with the Asheville City Schools Foundation, I was a part of the Foundation's racial equity conversations in 2017 and 2018. I have racial equity training and know what it means to center voices. As the former general manager and vice president of Able Rent-A-Jon & Waste Services, I delivered and serviced portajons around the Vance Monument for festivals such as Bele Chere and protests, like the Women's March in 2017 and the rally protesting HB2 in 2015. I recognize the significance of Pack Square and how the Monument is a structure around which communities gather.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I grew up in Asheville and Vance Monument was always a focal point of Asheville. The history that surrounds the monument, like the black and white restrooms which have been filled in, helps to tell the story. It says where we have been and where we are going in the future. It's time to make changes. I want to be a part of this decision for the good of our community and to show how we have evolved to present day. I look forward to working to serve the citizens of Asheville and Buncombe county. Sincerely, George Stevens	Other than a career of sales, sales management, corporate trainer and a small business owner, I grew up in Asheville, raised my family here, and have deep roots thought out WNC. I earned my living selling in the area. I enjoy research, working as a team to make the best possible decision. I can make group presentations, and enjoy talking and learning from other people.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am a member of SCV CAMP 15. My family has lived in the area since before the 1770s. My family history has had its members serving in the Revolutionary War, the war of 1812, WWI, WWII, and the Vietnam War. I volunteered for the Vietnam and served for 32 years in the US ARMY. I am a student of the War between the states the had four great-great- grandfathers in the period. Three were CSA soldiers and one was in the US ARMY. NONE of my family owned slaves. I honor their memories by tending their grave sites and performing grave remembrances on recognized dates of the year. I an an ardent student of local and state history. I teach to remember the countries great loss on both sides of the tragedy of our country so we remember and honor our loss of all our wars.	Rendering service to restore and preserve family gravesites in WNC and honoring the members who served our country. To tell those lost one's stories and life histories. To remind we living why we must not allow a repeat our past mistakes.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I moved to Asheville in 2018 and was very quick to notice that I am always one of a handful of people of color in any public space. As a non- Black person of color who relocated to Asheville from a more racially and ethnically diverse community in the Washington D.C. Metropolitan area, I struggle with my continuous discomfort of being the only person of color in almost any room I walk into in our city. I believe building a task force that is representative of ALL Ashevillians, especially the disenfranchised and unheard, and offer my voice in service of eradicating public spaces that wrongfully celebrate the legacy of slavery and racism.	I am a big believer in the power of storytelling. In 2018, I participated in an immigrant storytelling event in DC where I told my story at one of their live events. If selected for the Taskforce, I would love the opportunity to tap into the stories from our Black community & shine a light on them by replacing the Vance monument with the story of a notable Black Ashevillian. I am an ESOL tutor with the Literacy Council and sit on their Board. I am well versed in the art of wearing multiple hats and juggling priorities. I am willing and able to put in the time, research, & dedication expected of a member of this Taskforce. Lastly, as a non-Black minority, I look forward to bringing a unique perspective to the table.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I wish to participate in the process of establishing racial equity and social justice in Buncombe County.	I have taught for over thirty years in our community. I served on the boards of ABCCM, United Way, The Health Adventure, First Baptist Church Asheville, and Building Bridges.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in taking action to heal this community. I want to get a better sense of the community's concerns and ideas for replacement of the monument. While I understand monuments do not affect other discriminatory policies or practices, they serve as powerful symbols of a community's priorities. For too long, white voices have been privileged in these conversations, and quite literally placed on a pedestal.	I am a civic-minded, engaged citizen generally, with a passion for social justice. As a local attorney, I have been fortunate to work with local organizations such as Mountain Bizworks, 1 Million Cups Asheville, and Venture Asheville to promote entrepreneurship. I am also a graduate of Leadership Asheville and I participated in a diversity and equity training as a part of that course. I am always looking for new opportunities, whether in my role as an attorney or a citizen to advance socially just causes.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe that how we handle this issue, if it is resolved well, can be unifying for the Community.	I've had careers with the Federal government and the U.S. military (U.S. Coast Guard). Both of these organizations, particularly the military, have made great strides in racial integration and working together. This was accomplished by a combination of education and regulation, a two-pronged approach that I feel is essential for success.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in serving on the Taskforce because I want to be involved in making a positive impact regarding racial injustices in our community.	I do not have any special qualifications, but I am a hard worker and have excellent communication skills.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a creative developer for graphic apparel and animation I excell at brainstorming and finding the best solution to serve the overarching idea. I have researched the black community's history in Asheville since I moved here in 2010 and have found so much depth. I follow the Asheville Preservation Society and attend events and volunteer opportunities. I believe in preserving the integrity of Asheville's history and moving forward with a solution for Vance Monument that serves the black community of Asheville and respects where the future Asheville as a whole should be headed. I want to use this blend of understanding to create a beautiful monument that our historical city can be proud of.	Creative Developer - 10 years Designer, illustrator and animator - 20 years My background is in graphic apparel concept. I've conceptualized and illustrated Martin Luther King and Rosa Parks apparel for the Smithsonian's Museum of African American History and Culture.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am the Director of Development and Programming for the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County (PSABC). People of color have historically been underrepresented in preservation. This is a problem we are all too aware of and in recent years, we have started to take steps in the right direction. Our Preservation Grant program, launched in 2017, seeks to fund projects in our under-served communities and the Johnny Baxter Award funds students furthering the study of African American history in Buncombe County. However, we recognize that we must continue to do more. As the topic of the Vance Monument once again come to the forefront, we recognize the need to see it through a new preservation lens. Vance's legacy is a painful one for too many of our citizens and visitors. Our Board and staff agree that change is necessary for the Vance Monument. What that change should look like is a much harder question to answer and one we do not intend to answer alone. With that	Working for non-profits, I have years of experience with committees and Boards and the challenges that come along with working in a group. I'm good at facilitating difficult discussions and keeping them civil and productive. I'm also responsible for all communications at PSABC and I'm good at talking to diverse audiences.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a resident of Asheville since 1976, I have seen much positive civic change, many missed opportunities and - worst of all - some destruction of local culture and history of underrepresented people. I believe we are at a critical moment to make needed changes on multiple levels in Asheville. We can address the future of the Vance Monument in a way that tells a fuller, more representative history of our community in the process. I spent 30+ years as a business owner located in a building that was renovated by my architecture firm in downtown Asheville. During that period, I was involved in numerous initiatives to preserve our unique architecture and help our center city thrive, including a particular focus on revitalizing the Pack Square area. The Vance Monument is a symbol of injustice that casts a strong shadow over current community life. The monument must be changed or removed as part of Asheville addressing racism and ushering in a new, more inclusive era that truly celebrates the strength of our diversity and recognizes the	South Pack Square Revitalization (late 1970s) - Collaborated with Director of YMI and Eagle/Market Street African-American property owners towards "visioning" a future for the area. Learned much about the history and challenges of those owners in trying to interest their children in returning to Asheville and participating with the properties. Successfully fought the closing of Beaumont Street through City of Asheville Public Works facility, which would have disconnected the largely Black East End residential neighborhood from downtown. Co-Founder, Board Member and Design Committee Chair of Pack Square Conservancy, the community nonprofit that created Pack Square Park. Extensive public-private collaboration with City of Asheville, Buncombe County, State of NC, and related agencies from 1999 to 2011. Co-Founder of Asheville digital history project "Know Our History - Know Ourselves," a collaboration led by UNC-Asheville. The focus of the project is to compile and make

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	No	I strongly feel that the Vance Monument's prominent location is critical to understanding what Asheville represents to both its local citizens and the broad reach of the city's visitors. That representation has both historical and societal implications that reflect how we have viewed history in the past and how we must better balance that historical interpretation to serve all members of our society equally. The process in making that change must be both deliberate and timely as this monument is the focal point of the majority of our social protests and it is part of a societal issues that is being addressed across our nation. I can't provide a "Yes" to the above agreement until there is more outreach, research and consultation to arrive at what would best serve Asheville.	I am recently retired from forty years of consulting predominantly in turnaround or urgent improvement situations. These engagements were initiated by either boards or senior managements that required someone to listen to all stakeholders, do considerable research on alternative solutions, develop a plan and gain consensus for execution. I have worked all over the country and in over ten different industries that were located in small to the largest cities in both very rural and metropolitan areas which give me a broad perspective. The nature of my work has required that I don't prejudge issues until all parties, data and viewpoints have been incorporated. As to political leanings, I have been a staunch independent for many years which lends itself to judging issues on their merits.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	Living in Virginia from age 10 until graduation from high school I witnessed racial segregation as a privileged white male in a city filled with Confederate memorials and saw firsthand the effects of Jim Crow almost daily. After receiving a PhD in American history from the Johns Hopkins University, I spent almost all of my professional career at DePauw University, Greencastle, Indiana, teaching classes on the history of race, race-making, and race relations as well as classes on the Civil War and Reconstruction era, the Black history and the African Diaspora, the South, 19th Century U.S. history, and on public memory and monuments. As a historian and a citizen, I am convinced racial progress can not occur unless individuals, communities, and institutions become aware of the deep roots of racial inequality in American society and culture including its manifestations in public spaces, including monuments. Of course, removing, changing, or adding public monuments alone will not solve racial disparities but the use of public space and shaping of public memory provides one important context from which	-Four decades of teaching on race, race relations, Black history, the Civil War Era, and public memory to diverse audiences including college students, museum professionals, and mature adults. -Taught College for Seniors class at OLLI, UNC-Asheville on "Civil War Memory and Monuments" in January 2018. -Organized and led a National Trust for Historic Preservation special initiative, "Interpreting African American Life at Plantation Sites" and worked with front line staff at five National Trust Properties to expand the scope of their interpretation of their site to include African American experiences. -Understanding of the history of Confederate culture and its memorialization and the importance of public spaces for creating shared identities. -Research skills with historical documents. -Ability to work with and communicate to diverse audiences. -Excellent writing and communication skills.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I'm eager to volunteer my efforts to bring about the swift removal of the Vance monument. I would defer to any Black members of the community who would like to be part of this task force and do this work, but also feel an obligation to volunteer my time as a cis white man to do what I can to help carry out the will of the community and the clear demands of Black Asheville so that they can be spared this labor if they so choose. It is my opinion that the public hearing on the matter has already been held in our streets and it is now time to execute on that collective will.	I can't claim any meaningful qualifications, but my experience as a small business leader has asked me to develop an ability to run meetings and organize a group to carry out specific tasks, and to manage change as that work evolves. I also head up the finance department at work, and as such have a good working knowledge of budgets and assessing financial implications of various scenarios. I understand the value of being able to look at problems through a financial or legal lens in concert with other approaches, as these systems (for better or for worse) often restrict possible outcomes.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	This is a monumental (no pun intended) decision for this community and it will not be easy, especially in a community with such divergent views and an seemingly difficult time reaching consensus on anything. My concern is that those with a specific agenda will hope to serve on this committee to advance their idea/agenda and not be open to hearing other opinions and views. It is interesting that the committee is to be composed of twelve members, just as is a jury - but it would seem that this 'jury' will be dealing with the 'sentencing' phase only. It would appear the monument has already been deemed 'guilty' and now it is just to decide whether to remove or repurpose the monument. I have lived in this community for the past 23 years and it has been fascinating to observe how rapid change can happen in this community. From the doldrums of the late 80s/early 90s to a bustling, vibrant downtown in just two decades is pretty amazing. There are those who wish some changes would happen more slowly, and then others who want more rapid change. This is a community with no shortage	During my working career I had the pleasure to serve on numerous grant panels and other groups charged with making difficult decisions. These experiences have taught me the value of listening, of fairness, of due process, of dealing with facts rather than opinions, and how to make a subjective process by nature be as objective as possible. I stri to look at difficult decisions from a variety of perspectives and not just my own.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe that many people have been under represented in America and at the top of the list is the black community. I believe that we as Americans can overcome these issues because we are Americans. I would be honored to serve on this board to improve the relationship between all people.	Only qualification I can say I have is that I have lived here in Asheville all my life and have seen the many changes.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I have lived in Asheville my entire life. I love this city and it's people and want to ensure that the decisions made hold the local interest as we as a message of unity and respect.	Rich knowledge of history and a very open mind and progressive attitude.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	No	My family and myself have lived here for generations on both my mother's and father's side for the most part we all still live in this area. At least one of my ancestors fought in the war of the states. I would like to be on the commission to try and help find a balance between where we came from as a nation and where we are now. And find a solution that not only preserves our history but that educate our future. I am for the preservation of these monuments, but I'm also for the addition of further information on location at these sites. Of not only what they did for good in this region but what they may have also done for I'll.. I want to retain this region's history in its physical state, I believe we need to take this opportunity to correct the information and expand on our history versus removing it all together.. Thank you very much for your time.	None that I can think of except a passion for my home and its history.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I have been closely following the City Council and County Commissioners meetings pertaining to the removal of Confederate monuments on public property. I am passionate about North Carolina history, and even more passionate about making the concerns and demands of Asheville- Buncombe's Black residents heard. I have written to City Council members and County Commissioners to express my support for the removal of Confederate monuments, and am currently advocating for the renaming of buildings on UNC Asheville's campus that are named for white supremacists and segregationists. I am very passionate about this topic and feel that I have a skill set that would serve the goals of the Taskforce.	In recent weeks I have conducted dozens of hours of research into the legacies of historical figures we honor with statues, monuments, plaques, and building names throughout the state. I have advocated for the removal of monuments and building names that honor white supremacists, enslavers, and segregationists across the UNC system. I have dedicated an equal amount of time to learning about the contributions and achievements of Black North Carolinians. During the summer of 2019 I worked for Self Help Credit Union as a Supplier Diversity intern where I learned about the challenges that minority-owned businesses face, and the economic vitality that can be achieved by supporting minority- owned firms. In this role I researched and contacted minority- owned businesses with a goal of strategically increasing the diversity of the organization's suppliers. This research experience would help meet the goals of the Task Force. Over the past 3 years I have completed extensive genealogical
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	No	To preserve history.	I was a contractor. I'm in real estate now. I would like to explore how the removal of the monument, as well as the changed atmosphere in Asheville, will impact our tourist industry since that is the mainstream of the economics here in Asheville.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in serving on this Taskforce because I care about the future of our community. Recognizing the harm that has been done to Black Asheville, and taking meaningful steps to healing are key priorities for our collective thriving in the future. The symbols that we celebrate in our public spaces communicate our values and perpetuate our community narrative. The Vance Monument, placed in our most visible and central public space, celebrates a man who enslaved people and erases the history of oppression and exploitation upon which this community was built. Removing this statue, acknowledging the harm perpetrated on black people, and replacing this statue with a monument that centers the accomplishments, and contributions of African Americans would be steps towards healing that are overdue and urgent. The best people to shape this monument, and to ensure that a true reflection of the African American community is placed in Pack Square, are black leaders and artists.	Skillsets: I am a trainer in the Listening Project methodology and have led Listening Projects to uplift the voices of adults and children most impacted by racism and inequities in Asheville. I can support the group in designing processes to gather community input and organize the data so it informs the group's decisions. My current work involves researching national networks that are moving cities towards greater equity and justice. I could be helpful to the group as a researcher by gathering, sharing, and organizing information about what communities are doing elsewhere. I also research local history and local solutions which is needed to achieve the key goals of the project - to identify and recommend African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County. I am an organized and efficient communicator. I could serve this group by developing systems and tools to keep Taskforce members informed, linking schedules,
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I would like to serve on this task force because I feel like it is an important subject that needs to be evaluated. At this moment, I have do not have my mind made up one way or the other whether the Vance monument should be removed. I believe a well qualified task force should look at all the stake holders and take the steps to do a deep dive into this subject and come up with a suggestion to City Council and Buncombe County Commissioners. I do lean towards supporting and hearing out the Asheville Black community as to their feelings and suggestions, but I also believe it is highly important to hear out the opposition of such an important decision for our city. I fee that a good task force must consider all options, stakeholders, and all citizenry before putting forth recommendations. This will ensure a clean process that is transparent and able to withstand scrutiny. While not all citizens of our community will happy with whatever outcome is suggested and put forth to Council and Commissioners, the process itself should be fair and equitable.	I have lived in Asheville for 10 years, and I am a small business owner. I own my own home, and am deeply invested in this community.I served on a task force in 2016 at the Mayors request that researched and did a deep dive into Asheville's growing short term rental situation. That task force was appointed with educated and well meaning community members and we were very serious about addressing all the stakeholders and all legal options available tot eh city. We worked well together, and we presented Council with 3 very detailed options that well received. On that task force, I went into it somewhat neutral and insisted that not only should the process be adhered to, but that we exhaust every avenue, consider every option, and keenly listen and consider every point of view. It was heady, and intense at times, but we all took it very seriously and our conclusions were, I believe, rock solid good options with explicit detail that were well received by Council. I never missed a meeting, was always on time, and I work very well with others in this setting. Other qualifications that I posses

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am a trained academic historian whose career-long focus has been on the history and cultural importance of monumental structures and architectural efforts at memorialization. In particular, my research has focused heavily on the study of monuments which either reflect major cultural trauma or, as in the case of the United States, actually inflict further trauma through the representation of certain historical figures. Because of my academic background, I have a strong foundational understanding not only of the ways memorials operate within cultural frameworks, but also the ways other countries (for example, post-Nazi era Germany and post-fascist Italy) have either removed or "recontextualized" their problematic monuments as acts of national reconciliation. Aside from my academic qualifications and my deep commitment to this work, I am a resident of downtown Asheville, which means Pack Square is my neighborhood park. I have witnessed protests of all kinds in front of the Vance monument, culminating with the recent BLM protests. Because of this, I feel personally and civically connected to the fate of the	As mentioned above, I am a trained historian with a specialty in the study of monuments and memorials. I hold an MA in history from San Diego State University, where I was a California State University Pre-Doctoral Scholar. While in attendance, I was named a summer fellow by the Holocaust Educational Foundation at Northwestern University and completed a Master's Thesis on memorial architecture in response to cultural trauma in both Berlin and New York City. I was subsequently named a Feldman Fellow at the Museum of Jewish Heritage and spent a summer in Poland studying memorials to the Holocaust. I was then awarded a fellowship to study memorial history at the University of Virginia. Most recently, I taught about the history of the Vance monument and the ways other American communities have responded to Confederate monuments (for example, Harper's Ferry, VA, New Orleans, LA and Richmond, VA), among other related topics, in senior-level humanities courses at the University of North Carolina - Asheville. Aside from these
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	testing	testing the application
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I would like to start by saying that I am not a person of color, and I would never want to take up space in something this important if there is an opportunity to have a person of color instead. That said, I believe in progressive history deeply, and being apart of something such as this, a literal reinvention of the wheel under what I deem as dark, but hopeful time for my country fills me with purpose and passion. I am young but I've done what I can thus far in my power to fight for justice everyday and this task force could be my next step to true tangible activism, something that I will educate people about for as long as i'm alive. I think it is wonderful what the city is Asheville is doing to address these monuments, I must thank you for listening to the people. Although I am not from Asheville, I was still born and raised in the south and grew up witnessing atrocities done to my fellow POC peers, it haunts me everyday. I feel that serving on this task force will be my way of giving back to a community that has been forced into the shadows for too long. I would be humbled and honored for this opportunity. Thank you for your time.	My best qualification is probably that I single handedly ran an art gallery for a year. I am extraordinarily organized and well read, I can dissect some legal documents, I work well with other people, and I have a burning passion for a better, more inclusive America.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in helping make a change for an undeserved and under heard community. I believe it is very important to have Black people represented the most on a task force like this. I also understand as a white person it is my job to help elevate the voices of those that are oppressed. If I can act as a bridge or conduit in communicating and having those that might not have the same viewpoints as me open up to dialogue I would like to help be a part of that.	I feel I bring a unique perspective as a general population member. I minored in history in college but I don't have a professional background in politics or political justice. I am sure there are many more people much more qualified then me to be on this Taskforce. What I do bring is dedication, an open mind, the want to see change and the want to help wherever I can. I have spent my entire life working in animal welfare and believe strongly it is my duty to help be a voice for those who cannot be heard and are not treated justly.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	After graduating from college in Charlotte, North Carolina during the sit down demonstrations, freedom rides and the student non violent era, I served in the USMC for 6 active years and received Honorable Discharge after returning from Viet Nam. Since 1967 have worked in Social Programs enhancing opportunities for disadvantaged people in Asheville, Buncombe and Madison Counties. Volunteer service consisted of more than 20 years with City Parks & Recreation, Buncombe County Smart Start For Children, O. M. Hart Minority Scholarship Foundation and Haith Miller Foundation both at AB Tech, Tutor in Reading and Math at Asheville High, Drug Prevention Task Force for Housing Authority City of Asheville, Chriistine W. Avery Learning Center, Poor People of Asheville , College for Seniors at UNCA. My academic background includes Johnson C. Smith University, University of Hawaii and Duke University, After more than sixty years of service working in various Social Programs aimed at improving the quality of life for poor people and having experienced first hand the dregs of racial disparity I am qualified to serve on this task	USMC Intelligence Officer, Life Member of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity whose members include such Civil Rights Icons lie Thurgood Marshall, Martin Luther King, W.E. Dubois, Jesse Owens and Frederick Douglas to name a few. Housing Authority City of Asheville Drug Prevention Task Force, Masters in Public Management Programs from North Carolina, Served on Model Cities of Asheville Board, City Crime Prevention Task Force and currently active in the "Voteless People Is A Hopeless People Task Force"
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I grew up in Asheville. I care primarily about honoring Asheville's African American community while recognizing the fact we are dealing with a historic obelisk designed by Richard Sharpe Smith, one of Asheville's most famous architects. I want to listen to the voices of my fellow Asheville black community members, as well as Jewish members who, apparently, also have a shared interest in Vance's legacy. My mother served on Asheville's historic resources commission when I was a child. That generation fought hard to save our historic buildings for future generations to see. I care deeply about Asheville and the values and image we portray to our community, and to the world. How we proceed today must reflect our values with a primary emphasis toward the care and concern for the fellow human beings in our community. Asheville, as isolated as it has always been in the western part of the state, has always moved forward. I am hoping to help this task force do that again -- lead the way forward today with this ancient symbol in the center of our downtown.	I have broad experience in media, communications, education, law and volunteering. I am a former newspaper journalist and I am an attorney. I have served on numerous search committees and boards. I most recently served as past chair of UNC-Asheville's Foundation Board. That board raises all the money needed for the university outside of state funding and oversees more than $50 million in endowment funds that are used for scholarships and other designated programs and development. Anyone who worked with me will tell you that at every meeting, I emphasized the importance of achieving robust diversity on our board. I loved the work I did as foundation board chair because the work is so important. So many disenfranchised students need, not just scholarship money, but the funds to help them with full inclusion in a university setting so they can reach their potential. I should mention that I am a native of Asheville who lives in the house I grew up in off Charlotte Street, a mere mile and a half from the monument. My mother, Shirley Anne McCullough, and my late
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am not a POC but I am queer and disabled and I feel that these issues are intersectional and revolutionary	I work in human services in the community

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am a Native of Asheville, and the Chair of the African American Heritage Commission. I've earned a Master's Degree and I'm a Certified Paralegal- IF Zebulon Vance had his way. I would not even have been able to obtain an education. Zebulon Vance argued in favor of keeping African descendants enslaved- the horror of ACTUALLY trying to justify capturing a race of people and holding them hostage, making them work FOR FREE, not allowing them the freedom and arguing the idea of emancipation as not only “utterly absurd,” but also a threat to the purity of the white race. “Amalgamation is so odious that even the mind of a fanatic [abolitionist] recoils in disgust and loathing from the prospect of intermingling the quick and jealous blood of the European with the putrid stream of African barbarism,” There never should have been a monument in his honor and to have it remain in a prominent place in this City is an insult and a threat to the freedom of ALL BLack and Brown people.	I am the Board Chair of the African American Heritage Commission and the Mountain Community Capital Fund. I have also served on several boards and leadership positions within my church.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	Very invested in seeking just solutions to our problems with race, I serve on the Buncombe County Remembrance Committee (to work with Equal Justice Initiative to enable communities to come to term with past lynchings of Blacks), work closely with my university's Department of Equity and Inclusion, and speak regularly about Reparations. It would be an honor to serve my community this way.	See above box. I am also a good public speaker/spokesperson. I have been through several anti- racism trainings, here and in New York City.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	My interest in serving on this task force is to create an exercise of civic responsibility with an open minded approach and to help foster and create a community that is reflective of equality, peace and the pursuit of happiness. To begin, I have concern with the opening "Agreement" and that it *requires an answer. The opening "Agreement" request me to choose a specific position with no process established before the task force is formed. A monument represents a specific time and place. Process is the action we experience in a continuous state. Whatever becomes of the Vance Monument should be reflective of the process of change and represent a community's desire to willfully, respectfully and peaceful engage with each other. My desire is to promote democracy and represent what the community wants. While I have my opinions, I wish is to represent and educate the information provided by my community. I hope this process will provide educational opportunities for all members, groups and stake holders of the community to learn from each other and come together with an understanding that opportunity and optimism can be	-Former Treatment Team Facilitator for Buncombe County DSS -Two Board Terms with Homeward Bound (Executive Director Search Committee) -Stage 4 Cancer Survivor -Organize annual event of 2,500 plus people -Small Business Owner Asheville 16 years -Step Parent to Asheville City School Graduate

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in serving on this Taskforce because I believe strongly that we should listen to the Black community in their calls to remove the Vance monument. As a clinical social worker and psychotherapist, I understand how trauma impacts people. Having to see monuments to slave owners every day is in itself traumatic; it reinforces to the Black community that they are second class. I think it is time that we change that. I was born and raised in Asheville, so I take this extremely personally. I would feel honored to serve my community by being part of this Taskforce.	As I mentioned above, I am a licensed clinical social worker. In my master's program I studied community advocacy, social policy, and above all I learned the importance of listening to the people who are most impacted by an issue and taking their lead. As a white person, I want to follow the lead of the black community. I am skilled in working with a team to solve problems. I am able to listen to the opinions of others, even if I disagree, and work with them to come up with a solution that does the most good. I have conflict resolution and deescalation skills that are helpful for working on a team.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	The recent events in our country have opened my eyes in new ways to racism and the feelings of African Americans in regards to confederate monuments and those created to honor individuals who were slaveholders. Having been in Asheville for 60 years, the Vance monument was just something I have always seen and equated with Asheville. I knew it was named for a governor, but not much else. I guess I have lived in a bubble without thinking of how the monument and the civil war statues affected our African American residents. I now have a deep conviction that we need to always consider how our actions affect ALL members of our community. I would like to be part of determining a better use for the monument. Because it is so iconic as part of Asheville, I would not want it removed unless there is no alternative. I think it could be repurposed as part of a teaching exhibit.	My only qualifications are my life experience. I have lived in Asheville for 60 years, living 1/2 mile outside the city limits. My working career involved work at a downtown bank, stock brokerage and law firm. I have lived through all the changes to Asheville. I saw the sad downturn for so many years and was elated to see downtown come alive again. Since retiring in 2013, I have been a weekly volunteer at Eblen Charities where I have worked with the low income residents of Buncombe County. I have seen the struggles and roadblocks many of them face in trying to improve their situation.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I think that the Vance monument which literally is in the center of town has tremendous importance to the City of Asheville and the proud residents who reside here. Getting this re-purposing project done "right" is of critical importance as it will demonstrate how our community reconciles the various viewpoints surrounding this thorny issue. The final outcome will not only serve as a reflection of who we are, but a projection of where we want to go as a city and society. I believe that other cities across our country will be looking to Asheville and specifically the work of this task force for guidance on how to handle this delicate issue that will not be going away any time soon. Furthermore, I feel that in this climate of ever- increasing polarization, my moderate pragmatism will be of use to this task force.	Local Family Physician of a very diverse socioeconomic patient panel Independent Business Owner Father of two teenage daughters First generation American (grandchild of Holocaust survivors) Extensive Leadership Experience locally Very active in the local Jewish community and Medical Community

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	The monument, any monument, is a story. Years ago I spent some time reviewing documents related to Vance and found how his life changed and creates an interesting narrative. I would like to go back through the historical documents with others on the committee and help create a complete story that can be shared with the community sharing the good and the bad.	My experience is that I don't have an agenda. I had spent, years ago, some time researching Vance as part of a group that had hoped to raise money to restore the monument. I have been an educator (7 years teaching special education and 14 years adjunct at the college level) so I have an idea how to convey to a diverse group. My 25 years in Human Resources allowed me to work with a racially mixed group of employees and to train employees and managers in non-discrimination issues.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I bring the perspective of someone who grew up in the era of Jim Crow laws, and literally in the shadow of the Vance Monument. Like every other African American, I have suffered the indignities of America's racism, but I have always worked to bring people together, rather that set them apart. I want to continue to use my lifetime of service to steer us to an equitable solution where future generations do not suffer as we have in the past.	I am a native of Asheville (born in Mars Hill), the great-granddaughter of a slave who was enslaved during Governor Vance's Civil war governorship. I have fought for Civil Rights since 1959, when as a member of the Asheville Student Committee Racial Equality I helped to integrate the city's public facilities. Upon graduation from high school, I became the first African American to enter the all- white Mars Hill University. I founded the MLK Association of Asheville and Buncombe County, Inc., which has celebrated and uplifted the life of Dr. Martin Luther King for the past 39 years.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	This is a part that I can play in addressing racial inequity in Asheville. Ambient public symbols such as the Vance Monument take an emotional toll on affected people's well-being. Any monument makes a strong statement about what a city values and this one must be replaced with one that matches the values of the people. While concrete, policy-based steps must be taken, public and symbolic actions such as this are also important and I would like to get involved for that reason.	During my recent graduate studies in Documentary Media, I completed a research project on toppled, removed and replaced monuments worldwide, with a focus on Confederate monuments in the South. I particularly focused on North Carolina and the protests and institutional actions surrounding "Silent Sam," the monument to Confederate soldiers once located on the campus of UNC in my hometown of Chapel Hill.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	To see all constituents represented equally in the center of my hometown	Artist, historian, helped save parts of the downtown in 1980 (the Diwntown Wrap - please google my name
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I feel strongly that monuments celebrating heroes of the Confederacy, segregation, and white supremacy have no place in our public squares. I am willing to bear the responsibility of being a member of this committee and moving the community towards justice and historical responsibility. I saw Mayor Manheimer's request for more applicants and offer my service. I'd be happy to serve or to see the current six candidates for Council fill this commission. While I recognize the need for diverse representation, I hope to see as many members of Asheville's Black community serve as possible.	I currently serve as president of the parent-teacher organization for Montford North Star Academy, an Asheville City Schools middle school with the distinction of meeting and exceeding growth for all demographics of students including our Black students. In this role, I advocate for equity without sacrificing excellence. Equity without excellence is insufficient to move us forward. I've previously served the community, for four years each, as vice-president of the Isaac Dickson Elementary PTO and as founding secretary of the board of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of the Swannanoa Valley in Black Mountain.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	The short answer is: I want to help my city. I'm motivated by a sense of civic duty and a modest sense that I have something to contribute. Beyond making a contribution to the city, I see an opportunity to bring this experience back to my classroom, so students can see a real-life project that mirrors what we talk about. I have created assignments and discussions around these same questions: what is an appropriate monument to a complex and contradictory individual? what should we do with existing monuments that alienate broad segments of our population. I also think Asheville's response to the challenge of the Vance Monument could serve as a template for other communities. The processes we develop and challenges we face can be shared with others dealing with similar issues. As a citizen of Asheville, I would like to participate on the task force to improve the city. As a high school social studies teacher, I'd like to bring the experience back to my students, so they can see a clear connection between civic participation and history.	In 2001 the National Endowment for the Humanities awarded me a small grant to create a new curriculum centered on Latin American Humanities. I wrote the grant in response to conditions at my high school: a school with a majority Hispanic population but with little representation in the curriculum. This necessitated making significant connections in the local business and cultural community. These connections paid off because we could highlight local aspects of broad themes in the Humanities curriculum. The interdisciplinary team of teachers I assembled created a list of speakers and cultural destinations for the students. From this I learned a lot of hidden history in Tampa, Florida and the importance of listening to others. As a member of a federally funded Teaching American History Grant cohort for several years, I had the opportunity to lead a book Discussion on Isabella Wilkerson's The Warmth of Other Suns. We also read Gilbert King's Devil in the Grove. We visited plantations and top scholars shared their expertise. More recently, I participated in an
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe that repurposing this monument in an inclusive manner can demonstrate to visitors that the people of Asheville have reconciled the inequities of the past and will move together to a better future.	Native of Asheville.. Graduate of University of North Carolina at Asheville. Former Educator. Retired aerospace safety equipment manager. Former Civil Air Patrol Squadron Commander, Group Commander, and Inspector General. Spokesman for Kenilworth Forest Community regarding development projects. My wife's father's family includes white South African settlers with the perspective of the ongoing Reconciliation process
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I'm interested in seeing story of our Asheville honored in a way that reflects all of our history, not simply the white history. Asheville is a place that strives to be inclusive and visual representations are a necessary public start to that process.	Native of WNC (Madison County and Fairview). 10 years background in nonprofits, currently employed as a Community Engagement Coordinator for a local brewery and have conversations daily with many marginalized groups in our area. I think their voices are the best to be on this committee but if there's an extra seat open I'd love to help.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a native born Ashevillean of divorced working class parents, whose ancestors were pre- revoluntionary war settlers, I have a unique perspective and vested interest to ensure our current citizens, descendants and visitors have a broad understanding of its many facets and events that shaped us, both good and bad. I would also like to pay my experience forward in a meaningful way to the myriad communities and generations that shaped my life here.	Before I retired in April 2020, I was a senior leader with Progressive Corp. (auto insurance) responsible for claims work processes and data analytics. As a hiring manager and leader of people, I was closely involved with our Diversity & Inclusion Programs as well as championing and implementing social responsibility initiatives among my work teams. Strengths I can offer are a proven background in research techniques, data analyses, team development and cohesion, as well as influencing skills and consensus-building. I am also a certified PROSCI Change Management Professional (skills used to explore, define, communicate and implement change in processes, work/social environments, project management, etc.). Other activities: member of the Asheville Art Museum's Collector's Circle; president, Toastmasters of a Mission; member, Advanced Toastmasters of Asheville; volunteer, 12 Baskets Food Pantry, West Asheville.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I believe it is important to use this time of civic engagement to have an open discussion of the role public monuments play in our community and how best those monuments may speak for ALL our citizens. While I find the Vance Monument a very aesthetic presence in the heart of our community there are historical, cultural, and systemic conditions that need to be raised as to that presence. I believe there are many options that can be drawn from within this community to address expressed concerns. Our area is fortunate to have many experienced artists that can contribute to this discussion.	I am now a local half-native, having lived more than half my life in Buncombe County and Asheville. During these years I have tried to stay engaged and serve in my community... * Serving as a board member with the Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County during the time that the Society board determined to purchase The Manor Inn and market for preservation. After leaving the board I was fortunate to be the lead architect in The Manor Inn's rehabilitation. * A founding board member and multi-year president of Mountain Housing Opportunities that initially worked wholly on a volunteer basis serving all residents of Buncombe County and grew during my time there to become the affordable housing developer that MHO is highly regarded for today. The MHO board was always very diverse in color, age, mobility, sexual orientation. I learned a lot. * Ride Director for Blue Ridge Bicycle Club and the annual Fletcher Flyer ride event for three years organizing 150 volunteers and leading the primary fundraising

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am a 75 yr old white male. I have lived in Asheville for 30 years. I am aware of my white privilege. I am aware of the systemic racism in Asheville and Buncombe County. I believe that right now there is an opportunity to address fundamental issues of racism but that the window of this opportunity will only be open for a limited time. The Vance Monument is only a symbol. The issues go much deeper than a monument but a monument is a statement of the values of a community. Given its central location in the county and in the history of the county, what becomes of it will speak to the seriousness of the community in seeking change.	Program director of a federally- funded substance abuse prevention program for the Buncombe County Drug Commission (later the Mountain Center for Substance Abuse Prevention.) Much of our work was in communities with a high concentration of people of color (ie. public housing neighborhoods.) Participated in 2 Building Bridges processes. Directed drug and alcohol treatment program at Craggy Prison. Volunteer member of allocation panels for United Way Member of the group which provided sanctuary for a Lantinx woman at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Asheville, spending "overnights" in the residence in which she was staying. I have marched with Reverend William Barber, etc., etc. All of which is to say that I am familiar with many of the issues challenging communities of color in Buncombe County and know how institutional racism is embedded in the city and the county.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	To clarify my answer to the above question, I would advocate to repurpose the monument. I feel we need to also be fiscally responsible. In an effort to promote inclusiveness, I would also advocate that a monument recognize all influential citizens who have contributed to the growth and well being of Asheville. A monument should not just recognize a person because of race, but rather because of merit. A monument can be living tribute, meaning that historical figures along with future citizens may have a place of recognition. Inducting names to be added to the monument in the future promotes a better community of cooperation.	I've been in business for almost 14 years in Asheville. I've lived all over the world in my youth. I've been exposed to many different cultures and have visited monuments in Europe and Asia. I have learned to be an avid listener and to approach everything with an open mind. Listening leads to understanding. It is more important than ever to speak softly and listen vigorously. My greatest qualification is my deep and sincere love of our city. I want every citizen to feel that they are a part of this and have the same love and passion for Asheville that I do.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	To the selection committee, My name is Ron Laboray, I am a professor of Art at Western Carolina University in North Carolina and until recently served on the Public Arts and Culture Commission in Asheville as Vice Chair until 2019. I have been interested in the confederate monument issue and have done some research and planning for relocation efforts. Inspired by Memento Park near Budapest Hungary, Confederate Park would be the relocated home for removed Confederate monuments. Memento Park in Budapest Hungary is home to several towering fascist public sculpture, which after political shifts were found inappropriate and were removed but were not destroyed but relocated to a park specifically designed for the sculpture and with educational information places the art in its historical context. http://www.mementopark.hu	Professor of Fine Art Masters of Fine Art 2000 Bachelors of Fine Art 1996 Asheville Public Art and Culture Commission 2017-19 - Vice Chair Historical Architecture Review Committee - Granite City Illinois 2007-11- Chair Illinois Transportation Archaeology Research Project - 2004-5

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in serving on the Vance Monument Task Force because I feel very passionately about the topic and want to be involved in making sure that Asheville and its citizens are not only comfortable and welcome in their own town, but on the right side of history during this crucial social movement.	A background in economics leaves me well equipped at resolving issues that may not be straight- forward, or may not have a "correct" answer. Strangely enough, having spent a year between Wisconsin and California selling cable door to door has given me a wide array of tools when coming to a positive conclusion amidst a deeply emotional discussion. While tensions rarely arise during a conversation about cable, many people feel very strongly about strangers walking around their neighborhoods. This opportunity has left me with the ability to engage in discussions with people from all walks of life, and has given me the power to bridge gaps in some very tenuous situations. During my career in Inventory/Logistics I have - on multiple occasions - completed a large project or worked on a consistent basis in matters that were interdepartmental. These projects and tasks are often difficult to navigate due to the uncontrollable parameters,
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a fifth generation Ashevillian, I am always interested in moving my community forward. Given the current racial climate throughout the country, I am especially interested in affecting change locally.	My firsthand knowlege of the community is key. I have recollections of the City prior to much of the redlining efforts and subsequent gentrification. I remember the vibrancy of Black owned businesses, entertainment, and education. I was also fortunate to be raised by civil rights activists. In fact, one of my mentors was renowned attorney and Asheville native, James Ferguson. In a full circle experience, in 2018, Mr. Ferguson and I served as co- counsel on a highly publicized police brutality case that brought racial inequities in Asheville to the fore. In addition, I currently serve as a member of the African American Heritage Commission of Asheville and Buncombe County.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a historian I am interested in making history accessible to people by bringing it to the streets rather than just in a visit to a museum. Locating information where people can come upon it casually and in context, as much as possible, involves those who may not feel comfortable going to a labeled historic site or who do not have access to a museum. It is my hope that this task force will accomplish its goal and document an previously ignored part of Asheville history as a result.	Confession: I am a history nerd. For the last 18 years I have led walking tours of downtown, both architecture and history, and a Family Store tour highlighting Asheville' s Jewish history, Riverside Cemetery, Biltmore Village and Montford as well as working as a step on guide for bus tours. I have an intimate knowledge of downtown and Asheville history. In addition I have written over 30 interpretive history panels located all over Asheville.These panels are on bus shelters (Montford Avenue), on buildings (UNC Asheville, Tempe Avery Montford Center, Jewish Community Center, Asheville Community Theatre, Stephens-Lee Recreation Center and Patton Avenue, to name a few.) The full list can be found at www.history-at-hand.com. In addition I have written 1 book and coauthored 2 books on local Jewish history. As a resident of Montford for 23 years I founded the Montford Music and Arts Festival 16 years ago with the hope of bringing the neighborhood together through music. Recently I spent a year working with the Stephens- Lee Alumni Association creating a
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a long time resident of the City of Asheville, I want to see our community recognize the many contributions that African Americans have made for our community. I want to give back to the community by devoting the time, research, and that needs civic and community engagements that promote racial equity. I have experience working with the City of Asheville Public Arts Commission and the Leadership Team. I believe public art will heal communities through community engagements.	Master of Art in Middle-Grade Education: 1983 Western Carolina University - M.A.ED., Grades 4-9 with Concentration: Visual Arts Bachelor of Arts Degree 1971 North Carolina Central University Major: Arts Education and Visual Communications Minor: Education TEACHING EXPERIENCE August 1971 - June 2004, I taught Arts Education for 34 years for Asheville City Schools System. I have served on the following BOARDS, COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT, AND ORGANIZATIONS Present: • Founding Member, President, and CEO of Delta House Life Development of Asheville, Inc. • A Member of the Public Arts Leadership Team Sub-committee for Art Ecologie Public Art for the City of Asheville: 2018 – 2020 Past: • A member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Past President and Treasurer • Pack Place Board of the Directors- 2017 - 2018 • Serves on the YMI Cultural Center

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	Tearing down the Vance Monument would be expensive, divisive, and contrary to our Comprehensive Plan's mandate to preserve our city's irreplaceable historic fabric. (It was designed in a uniquely Ashevillean roughhewn-stone idiom by Richard Sharpe Smith, the architect of the YMI Cultural Center and the Biltmore House.) However, the name our town's most prominent downtown monument bears has become unbearable to our Black residents and, for that reason, should be unbearable to all of us. I hope we can separate the monument from the man, and reclaim our Obelisk from its Confederate captivity as the sacred civic symbol of unity and aspiration that this simple, upward- pointing spire is supposed to be. The "artistic reparations" solution I propose below is affordable, beautiful, and, I believe, a wise middle way between racist denial and reactive destruction. But public input may well lead to even better proposals.	I'm a Wiccan priest whose religion respects the magic inherent in obelisks, and the role similar crossroads standing-stones play around the world as a unifying community axis -- thus, I care about what happens to our "omphalos", "baetylus", "bethel", "lingam", "standing stone" (there are many names for the same thing). A former journalist, I studied and wrote about the monument's history, including its erection by Masons (not Confederates!), and its connection to Vance's now-forgotten positive role after the Civil War as a pioneering crusader against anti-Semitism (making it an important symbol to Asheville's Jewish community -- for many years the B'nai B'rith annually laid a wreath at the Obelisk). The article is at https://mountainx.com/news/comm unity-news/0507vance-php/. I must note that if I had known when I wrote it about Vance's virulent racism, the tone of the article would have been very different. As a civic activist, I've participated in many free-speech rallies around what I see as Asheville's granite Liberty Tree -- and I've made a
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I apply with hesitation with the awareness that my voice should not be centered unduly in this process. I do not experience harm from this monument directly, nor am I a longtime native resident with the depth of understanding about the history and context of this particular monument that others could bring. But I have no say in whether others I wish to see on this Taskforce apply or not and am offering my service in case others do not; I am trusting Council to make informed choices that center and uplift Black voices and representation. That said, I feel that my professional interests and background are relevant to this particular subject, and that my personal characteristics, communication style and existing connections may help this process be a success. The reason for this task force is necessary but controversial; how we conduct our work can either be a source of ongoing division in our community, or a process through which various stakeholders with strong disagreements feel their input has been heard. While no outcome will satisfy every resident and that should	I am a historical interpreter with a background in archival work and a particular focus on history of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era. Since 2017 my job title has been Historical Interpreter at a local historic site. I have volunteered with the Western North Carolina Historical Society before. Independently I have pursued professional training; I am a Certified Interpretive Guide through, and member of, the National Association for Interpretation since 2017 and have been an officer of its Cultural and Historical Interpretation Section since 2019, most recently assuming the title of CHI Director in June 2020. I am also a member of the American Alliance of Museums. As part of my service I intend to reach out to these professional networks to help identify resources and outside perspectives which can inform our discussions. I want to stress that I do not consider myself an "expert." I am passionate about this work, but I am also relatively new to it. I feel it is important not to overstate one's qualifications; that said, I do not

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I have long-maintained that all citizens of our community and a democratic society must be included equitably in the decision-making process of determining public polices and actions taken by the community as a whole. This process of study, public hearings, and consultations, as the Vance Monument Task Force completes its work and recommendations, affords someone like myself, a retired person, to apply the best of my life's education and work experiences to fulfilling responsibly the work of this Task Force. Most all appointments I have held at local, state and national levels of responsibility in my professional career have addressed matters of public policies in education provision, criminal justice, civil rights and democratic governance. Roger Sharpe	Elected one of North Carolina's youngest state senators, at age 29, representing Burke, Caldwell, Watauga, Avey, Mitchell, and Wilkes Counties for 1977-78 after teaching at Western Piedmont Community College. Supported the Equal Rights Amendment I also spoke on equitable funding for historically Black Public colleges and universities, all speeches entered into the Record of Senate Proceedings, 1977-78.. Special Assistant on higher education desegregation in ten state systems to US Director Office for Civil Rights David S.Tatel, in then HEW, headed by Cabinet Secretary Joseph A. Califano, Jr, concurrent appointment as National Fellow in Education at the Institute for Educational Leadership, Washington, DC. Judge David Tatel in 1994 was appointed to serve on the United States of Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia, when Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg was elevated to the United States Supreme Court. Appointed Director of the executive Branch Liaison National School
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a concerned citizen of the city of Asheville, I believe that action must be taken to promote and further a narrative of progress for this town. Racial inclusivity must be acted upon and we must change our vision as a town of what it means to be kind and loving to one another. I would like to do what I can to help progress that vision and help make Asheville a better place for all people. We must not let the racially divided past linger in the form of monuments, names, or ideologies and removing or repurposing the Vance Monument is a place to start.	I have previously been the co-chair of a non profit that worked with land owners and citizens to navigate the use and purpose of the lands. During my time as the co-chair, I helped to write grants, ran meetings, and gave public addresses regarding the matters discussed at our meetings.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	When my spouse and I were looking for a community to raise our children in, all the research pointed to Asheville. After moving here, reality struck. The diversity that Buncombe County stated was not what was displayed. My 3 year old was told by a teacher not to play with a black child because she was "different" and put her in a group with another biracial child. She proceeded to tell me I was different from her, her brother and my husband because I was black. Having to explain the "N" word to my child when she and I was called on at a gas station. The fear of my now, 5 and 8 year old not wanting me to leave the house during protest, but okay for my husband to. This has to change and I have to be apart of that change. Relocating is not the solution, helping mend fences and recreating the "village" is what it will take.	I have research skills as a educator. I also understand the process of having my voice heard in Buncombe County, which is no small fret. I brought to the attention of the county government information on the employment sight that spoke against what Buncombe County stood for, and it was immediately changed.

Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I am interested in serving in this task force because I believe that the Vance monument is more than just an eyesore in the midst of our beautiful town. It is a reminder of the injustices that still plague our community today. I am also a very social person who would like to be a part of this force in order to create a deeper connection with my community. I am already volunteering for the Asheville chapter of Pandemic of Love, so it is very important to me to serve and help my neighbors and friends.	I have experience in volunteering with Pandemic of Love as well as an active participant in the protests that took place in Asheville. Although I am not Black, I am a person of color seeking to support my community of POC as well as create positive change.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	As a life long citizen of Asheville for 51 years, i have watched downtown Asheville rise from the boarded up store fronts of the 70's and 80's, to a thriving diverse meeca for new business and cultural expansion. I am a regular citizen. I have no agenda. The Vance Monument has alwaysbstood as a marker in downtown for me. An essential aid in giving directions to tourists. I believe the monument should not be removed, but renamed and repurposed. As Asheville has changed to embrace diversity, this would be s golden opportunity to showcase how our community can come together peacefully to resolve future issues but not ignoring our past.	I am a citizen of Asheville and Buncombe County. I know the tourism industry like the back of my hand. I have no political agenda. I am an advocate for diversity and preserving the true essence of our city.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	Yes	I have lived in Western North Carolina since 1980. I love the mountains and Asheville or I would not have stayed here so long. In my opinion, over the past twenty years Asheville has transitioned from "Cool Green Asheville" to "Cruel Mean Asheville", and that's unfortunate. Our area and city requires intentional design and direction in order to benefit everyone and not just a select few who believe they have control over the others.I would like to be a part of moving Asheville into it's next one hundred years and creating it's honorable future.	No special or professional qualifications that I am aware of. My career has taught me: Attention to details. Maintaining focus on the task and goals. Finding creative and unique methods to accomplish tasks. Identifying and celebrating others talents and abilities.
Application - Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville	No	I would like to hear all viewpoints and learn more about Vance and the origin of the monument before casting a vote whether to remove and/or replace the monument with something else. Any action without an prudent amount of review and discussion of appropriate alternatives I feel is reacting to a symptom, not really attempting to address the root cause. I am a North Carolina native but have lived in the Asheville area for only 10 years, I do not have any particular partiality to the historical significance of the monument and feel that I bring an open mind and unbiased opinion in the matter.	I am a retired corporate executive from the securities industry and have been a corporate representative in multiple litigation cases. I am not an attorney however I am very familiar with due process and the importance of reviewing evidence and weighing supporting argument in determining the outcome of disputes. Before my 30-year career in the financial services industry, I received a masters degree in education from East Carolina University and taught on a collegiate level in North Carolina.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce	What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce	What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County	Conflict of Interest
More give and take between the races. And to create a dialogue with others.	I think I am and would be a good "go between " between any groups.	I can see the economic, Medical and cultural differences between our races.	None
I would want the Task force to develop recommendations that outline an appropriate way to repurposed the monument so that it represent less controversial symbolism while preserving it place in our square. I think the monument should stand for the characteristics and spirit of all of the citizens in our community, regardless of creed or color, rather than one individual from history.	I have the ability to graphically represent the ideas and recommendations developed by the task force as drawings or renderings.	It is certainly a work in progress that needs further attention.	No
I would like to be part of creating possible ideas of what to put in place of the monument, but obviously with a group of African-American artists; I am multicultural as well, but am not included in the African-American category. I would like to work with the other people appointed to create steps needed to get everything done to bring the monument down.	Ideas of what to put in place of the monument because I am an artist and a graphics person, but once again working with African-American artists who deserve the opportunity to ultimately decide on the final idea. I am good at phone calling, so I can organize necessary groups to get things done. I am versed with the media and understand how they work and can be part of a group or committee concerning communication with the media.	I have protested on a couple of occasions during the ongoing recent crisis and the protests in Asheville, and was part of a presentation in Burnsville, North Carolina. I have ties with some of the African American community so I can see from a certain vantage point through their "eyes". I was part of Black Lives Matter Community on Facebook and received a lot of information; I keep up with the media including older stories for example about Mr. Rush. I also sat in a couple of City Council meetings (before Covid-19) concerning the housing dilemma for lower income housing and the promise of creating it.	I have no conflicts of interest concerning this endeavor.

I would like to see the removal of the statue and relocation to an appropriate place, with respect to those who've come before us to build our city. I would like to see the appointment of artists of a diverse background to cocreate a truly interracial monument that honors all (because those who are not black should not be excluded by the color of their skin - that is in my mind just as racist as having only a white male slave owner monumentized). I realize the above may not be popular but people in OUR TOWN are terrified to speak up to you. If they could speak freely they'd ask that all be honored and that African Americans be invited to join that Rainbow Nation circle as EQUALS. Not lower not higher but equal. I would like to see a monument that reflects that importance and equality of all people. Having a black artist create this new monument could make the statement you want to make while also HONORING the requests of the black population here in our town	The ability to zoom out from the extreme left and right view of things and to help people come together in a balanced way.	I actually have a unique take on this and will not give you a standard sound bite just to get accepted. I think your committee deserves diversity and shouldn't be all of the same mind ("groupthink") in any case. I was raised to not see color in a mixed family. My grandmother experienced oppression in the early 1900s Philippines and my father after her in Ohio. What I see today in Asheville is quite similar. I see people of color who want and deserve equality. I see white people who are experiencing racism for maybe the first time simply due to the color of their skin. I see Latino people getting skipped over for jobs and are underpaid. I see Cherokee, the original owners of this land, completely ignored. So much strife and racism. Although all people experience varying levels of strife, esp with 40 million unemployed in the US currently, I realize the "burning house" is currently the African American population and that this is the focus in Asheville and Buncombe	No.
I would like to see compromise, and I would like to see the obelisk preserved in it's current location, BUT rededicated to a cause that the majority of citizens of the county could embrace. This could mean possibly adding additional sculptures or interpretation to the existing Monument. I think that we have to be sensitive to everyone's feelings.	My knowledge of Asheville history and records. My ability to research. I guess what disturbs me most, are the numerous, inaccurate statements of facts that have been made concerning the conception and purpose of the monument in recent press articles. I would hope that we could create a narrative based on historical accuracy, concerning the monument's history as it regards slavery. I also think that I can best contribute by being open to compromise.	I would have to be honest in saying that I know very little of the current racial inequities in the county. In fact, it seems to me though, that Asheville is more segregated now, than when I was growing up here in the 50s and 60s. I am certainly open to being better informed on this.	No real conflict. I must say that Zeb Vance is a distant relation of mine through marriage. Though, as I have said, I have no interest in preserving the obelisk as a monument to him. My only interest is to save the obelisk and rededicate it.
I would like to listen first to the ideas and suggestions of POC in Asheville and work together to transform a symbol of hate into something more interesting and inspiring.	As an artists with experience in creating anti-racist work I can contribute my knowledge of how to use visual symbols and materials to communicate. As an arts administrator with experience working on large public programs I can also contribute the organization, persistence, and creativity that will be required to pull off this ambitious, and sensitive project.	An accurate answer to this question would definitely require more than 2000 characters. There are many racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County. As a city in the United States of America, Asheville was built (both literally and figuratively) with a system of slavery. The white supremacist mentality required to maintain such a system for hundreds of years necessarily has had a variety of impacts on racial equity. The legacy of this can be seen in Asheville specifically in segregated housing, health care inequities, education achievement gaps, and a steady decrease in POC populations.	No, I do not have any conflicts of interests.

I would like to achieve in putting up something that honors the Black ancestors who lived here who were continually abused by the local government.	I feel like I can contribute excellent listening skills. It isn't just about me and my experiences, but it is about the experiences of my fellow Black people in the Asheville area who want to be heard loud and clear.	This area is labelled very progressive and liberal, but the truth of the matter is that the local government has continued to harm Black and People of Color through police brutality, educational gaps, and gentrification. I see how the police treat us at protests, but give room for KKK members to open carry. Asheville and Buncombe County are not progressive, we just appear that way.	No
I would like to see a consensus reached among all of the stakeholders that whatever the Taskforce recommends is the choice of the community, and that all voices are heard, considered and balanced. I believe we will need to listen to all who wish to share their opinion on what should happen at the Vance Monument site and work together to craft a solution that will empower and energize the community going forward.	Aside from my qualifications and experiences above, I believe that I can help seemingly disparate voices come together in harmony and find common ground. As a lawyer, I'm often called upon to help resolve disputes. I've learned over my nearly 30 years of practice how to mediate between parties with opposing goals and priorities to reach amiable solutions to disagreements, without having to ask a judge or a jury to settle the dispute. I believe I will be able to speak authentically to the various stakeholders in this process, and I hope to be able to strike the appropriate balance between all interests for the good of the community as a whole.	Asheville has a long and sordid history of segregation, redlining, gentrification, discrimination against and forced relocation of African- Americans. This has contributed to Asheville and Buncombe County having the highest achievement gap in the state between white and African-American students in the public school system. My wife and I have put three children through the Asheville City Schools system. I have volunteered extensively in the school system and have witnessed the disparities in how children of color are taught, coached and disciplined. I work in the area of criminal defense, and I know how Black people are disproportionately charged for minor drug offenses, and how their neighborhoods are often over- policed. As a graduate of the APD Citizens Police Academy, I know of the difficulties faced by local law enforcement gaining trust within communities of color, as well as the challenges in recruiting and retaining officers of color in a community with such a dearth of African-American cultural opportunities due to a hollowing out of the Black middle class in Asheville.	None of which I am aware.
I would like to replace the monuments to slavers with more appropriate symbols going forward.	Listening to the local Black community to make informed decisions based on their input.	I know we suffer from many of the same issues pervasive throughout the country at large: a disproportionate amount of arrests targeting Black people, violence at the hands of the APD, a serious education gap.	No.
I think Asheville, particularly the downtown needs to be unified. I am not politician, I am an independant voter and I hope that we can help create a peaceful and wonderful place to visit for everyone.	I think because I am an outsider I can bring a different perspective, a different point of view. I have been a resident of North Carolina all of my adult life. I left Florida to move here because of the beauty, the kindness of the people, the change of seasons, the history. Part of my job now is to promote Asheville and it is hard, because I'm not feeling all the things that brought me here in the first place.	I never felt or saw any inequities between the races in Asheville until about 10 years ago. Things began to change and alot of anger began to come up. I think that people moved from different places and they brought with them ideals, prejudices, and thoughts of how things should be. Instead of melting and becoming part of the area they wanted to change the people, places and things	no

To help the community reach a consensus on the fate of the Vance Monument. Be it a redesign or removal, there must be some change I hope to part of that decision process.	Researching alternatives and researching the history of the monument and how Buncombe County residents participated in the Civil War.	I do feel Blacks are profiled and singled. I also feel other minorities are not treated the same as whites. Anecdotally, it seems I see more Blacks pulled over by APD than Whites.	I see no conflicts of interests.
My ultimate goal as part of this task force would be to reach a consensus on the future of the Vance Monument and provide recommendations in a timely manner. Asheville and Buncombe County are made up of a variety of people from different walks of life and backgrounds. It's something which makes this area more unique than other parts of North Carolina. In reaching this consensus, therefore, I would like to gather the opinions of other residents and eventually come to a unified solution with other task force members that embodies the unique culture of this area.	My market research skills, youth, and knowledge of North Carolina history. I am very familiar with gathering information and reviewing large sets of data to support actionable decisions as this is part of my job description in my day-to-day role as a market research analyst. I am also able to turn these decisions into fine- tuned reports and presentations that can be easily understood or quickly digested. Furthermore, I believe my youth will be a great contribution to the task force as I'm well-versed in social media and using new forms of communication to get timely feedback from a variety of age groups. I've also been interested in North Carolina history since I was a child. Few people, for instance, realize Vance Monument stands at the intersection of a route called the Buncombe Turnpike that was erected in the early 19th century to open the western part of the state to settlement and trade.	The City of Asheville has created a great portal through ArcGIS that I believe wholly envelopes this question. Asheville's historic policies have created racial inequities that are still evident today. By focusing on each topic, and finding a suitable solution, the city can move forward by providing an equitable playing field. • In regard to income, an African- American household in Asheville typically earns $12K and $16K less than the average city or state household, respectively. Moreover, 39% of African-American women earn an income below the poverty line while 61% of single African- American mothers have earning below that line. • Asheville City Schools show an achievement gap as African- American students typically earn less on state EOG tests. • In real estate, the Home Owner's Loan Corporation under the New Deal made it harder for African- Americans to gain mortgages and created a wealth gap that is still evident today. The central areas of Asheville have seen declines in African American population in the last decade as gentrification	None
Peace and unity for Americans.	An outsiders view of US history and a contributer to its future.	I have not encountered ineqalities based on race, but on the nationality.	none
important protest in in the Country; was part of the core team of leadership for the first, for the second and third was one of two leaders. I would like to be a part of the momentum that gets what the people are asking for: replacement and/or repurposing Vance monument. I recognize that there will be roadblocks. However I trust that all applicants selected will bring with them, as I plan to bring with me, drive and commentment to have the tasks force work done transparently and as quickly as possible. We cannot afford to miss this poignant hour and opportunity to dismantle the symbols of white supremacy and oppression of BIPOC. Lies have been told all across America glorifying the antebellum south and the so-called gallantry of those who served the confederacy. I want to be a part of the telling of the omitted truth, and the more complete story of the history of Black people in WNC.	I am willing to do what's requested of me.	The veil of Asheville's prgressiveness was lifted for me within a very short time of arriving here in 2007. Everything from experiencing first hand how uncomfortable it can be being Black in downtown Asheville, to work on police accountability in it's relationship to Black residents of the City, to advocacy for children of color in public schools. I lived for several years in the oldest historically Black neighbrhood of East End / Valley Street - I witnessed the gentrifcation, the pushing out of elders who could no longer afford to live in their community and how their children couldn't/can't even afford to buy their own parents' homes, the places where they grew up! I've seen the data. I've seen the results of police being called on young black teens in downtown Asheville for simply being teens, for being the same silly young peole as white teens but with a penalty - a Black tax. I've attended the meetings with parents advocating for their children in schools. I've done the work around implementing policy on police use-offorce	None listed

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I would like to achieve a fact based, consensus based solution to the monument issue that will bring the community together without further fostering division and hostility.The fact based elements of a solution would include costs to remove or repurpose and maintain the existing area and monument or create future structures ina fashion that would still be attractive for tourists and residents. Facts would also encompass knowledge of all facts pertaining to the history of the monument and its creator - not just those facts that serve partisan interests. A consensus based solution would be satisfactory to the greatest number of citizens, recognizing that every person may not have the exact outcome personally desired.	My best contribution would be my experience as a consensus builder around difficult issues involving multiple groups and competing interests. My primary example is facilitating the formation and leadership of the ongoing activities of the Business Healthcare Roundtable, a task force of hospital executives, physicians, and business leaders.The Roundtable studied the issues contributing to high health insurance costs in Western North Carolina and explored ways to provide solutions for afordable small business group health insurance and was successful in spearheading the passage of NC HB212, providing legislative authorization for a regional demonstration project on the issue.	Institutional and structural racism have been part of communities across the USA, Asheville being no exception., Inequities were programmed into education. Schools were racially designated when I was a white high school student at Lee Edwards while black students attended Stevens Lee High School. Health care was delivered in segregated hospitals and clinics. Neighborhoods were delineated by race. Without adequate education, job opportunities were limited for black individuals. Some equality in housing and job opportunities as well as health care has been achieved through legislative efforts. Only when the issues of racial disparity in education, housing (safe neighborhoods), and employment are fully recognized and acknowledged will true progress be made.	I don't know of any conflicts.
My goal for this task force would be to help develop win - win solutions in a time of contention. I don't beleive in solutions that only satisfies one side. Anyone can make those desicions. Compromise takes effort.	I beleive my openess, to ideas and ability to listen to all of the arguments as well as having a calm demenor would be an asset to any team looking for solutions.	I don't have intimate knowledge of the local inequities but I assume it's inline with most of America. The Black community suffers from fractured family unit and low opportunity for higher socio-econonic advancement.	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.

An expeditious removal of the monument to an appropriate setting and/or re-purposing of monument materials by local African-American artists	I am creative, task-focused and committed to fully participate in the process	African-American voices have been left out as the region grows. Historically African-American neighborhoods are being gentrified resulting in a lack of low-cost public housing. African-American college graduates often leave this area for higher-paying jobs and more inclusive cultures, Their is a huge learning gap among Asheville's African-American children. Public safety is a huge concern in Asheville's communities of color.	I am aware of none
To arrive at a meaningful conclusion that honors Pack Square Park, our city's history of leadership and includes a vision statement of who we are and who we strive to be as a community. Costs will be an important balancing factor in achieving a successful conclusion.	People say I am a very good listener. Working from a written agenda and keeping a conversation on track and reaching consensus/conclusions is important to me. I do consider meetings of 12 people potentially unwieldy, but feel capable of assisting a meeting facilitator in keeping meetings on track.	Evidence is found in the local education statistics: a study presented by the former Asheville Schools Superintendent pointed out performance gaps in our city schools showing blacks to be 30% to 40% below state recommended attainment levels for reading and math. Graduation rates for blacks are something like 20 to 30% below white students. These statistics are ranges and a recollection from a presentation two years ago. Forgive me if they are only somewhat accurate representations of the numbers that were shown and discussed. I grew up in segregated schools in Indiana and am alert to the fact that in many to most settings, whites are favored. This has always been unfortunate as no-one has any say so about their genetic make-up.	Not that I am aware of.
I would like to represent a segment of our great community and make sure that a fair and equitable decision is achieved.	The ability to listen is paramount. I have proven through my life's experiences that I have that ability.	Asheville and Buncombe County are microcosms of the nation. The history of our city is more diverse than many other places, though. Historically we have been sensitive to all races and backgrounds, as compared to a lot of other cities. History cannot be changed. The future should be the focus and careful, intelligent considerations are	None

I would like to achieve the successful removal of the current monuments, creative installation of new works celebrating the African-American community, and a process that is rooted in compassion, community, and equity for the entire community and those involved.	I would like to help contribute to the artistic, creative process that is both community-led, and inclusive of various stakeholders in a way that the entire community can be proud of. Artists Designing Evolution, at my leadership, has achieved installation, and success with the Celebrating African-Americans through Public Art, African-Americans in Western North Carolina & Southern Appalachia, Stand Against Racism, WNC Diversity Engagement Coalition, as well as other projects related to youth, entrepreneurship, and facilitation. I am results-oriented and would be committed to seeing this process through successfully.	As a racial equity facilitator, and student of racial equity trainings - locally, regionally and nationally including Racial Equity Institute, Building Bridges of Asheville, and others - I have a deep analysis of racial disparity for the region, and locally. A few key events that have taken place in Asheville include -- 1777 - The first enslaved African people in Buncombe County were brought by William Moore. They were known as Jim & Sue, and lived in the Hominy Valley area of Candler. 1794 - The Buncombe County Court House located on Pack Square began to record slave deeds. The largest slave owner was Nicholas Woodfin, who owned 120 people living in 15 dwellings. The other large slave owners included the Patton, McDowell, Merrimon, Gudger, Baird & Vance families. 1850 - Born a slave, James Vester Miller came to Asheville as a young man with practically no formal training, but with a firm understanding of what he wanted to in life & how he would do it. Miller worked for some of the best contractors in Asheville before starting his own company, Miller and Sons Construction Co., recognized as having the best brick masons in	Due to this being the first time such a task force has existed, I am uncertain where conflicts of interest may be, or what would be considered a conflict of interest. If any additional information can be provided, that would be helpful, and for now it's a no.
My goal would be to remove existing monument and replace it with one chosen and created by the Black people of this county.	I understand how to think scientifically, research and cite my sources.	Currently I understand that Black people are afraid of the police. That Black people are disproportionately arrested and convicted. That it is more difficult for Black people to get loans. That Black people are paid less than White people	None.
To procure public acceptance of the proposal(s).	Providing historical context and imaginative solutions.	According to Asheville City Manager Debra Campbell: "Campbell highlighted disparities between Asheville's black and white residents in education, economic status, housing and policing. The unemployment rate for the city's black residents is twice that for white residents, she said, and black residents are also less likely to own homes. Household incomes for black residents hover at $30,000, compared to the city's average of $42,000." --Mountain Xpress	None
A healing way of dealing with the Confederate monuments which can be an example to others.	Knowledge of history and ability to listen to others and communicate.	We are a clearly segregated community with little meaningful communication between the races, but I feel there is a willingness to address the social, economic and cultural disparities. For example, twice as many blacks as whites live in the poverty level, although black people make up only about 12% of the Asheville population, which then affects the education level and the ability to improve one's economic status.	no

Have all the monuments from all states preserved at Gettysburg. Most of them were erected by the actual veterans.	see above	As a fan of History I understand how both sides feel.	No
I hope that the Task Force will be able to assist the community in moving forward in a peaceful and constructive way. I think reaching consensus in a transparent manner should be a primary goal of the Task Force.	I have the ability to consolidate large quantities of varied and complex information, and also an ability to build consensus in different group settings.	Based upon my experience with the Asheville City School Board, I am well aware of the longstanding disparity in educational results when applied to African American students. On the criminal side, I am well aware, and have heard of many incidents, of people being stopped “driving while black”. In addition, the inequitable arrest statistics of African Americans as compared to non-African Americans continues to be troubling.	None
I would like to see a monument demonstrating honor and respect to the Black Community for their many contributions to Buncombe County.	My greatest contribution will be my ability and desire to work with members of both the Black and White communities.	Lack of acceptance and lack of economic opportunities drive the inequity which is a major factor in the ability of Black people to fully participate in all aspects of community life in Asheville/ Buncombe County.	None.
I want to contribute to a norm wherein Buncombe County and The City of Asheville look frist within our community for expertise rather seeking expertise out of state. I want to participate in building consultative skill and change management expertise within the city and county. No only would there be a savings, but building in-house capicity retains the learning here and minimizes dependence on out-of-state expertise.	Leveraging my experience and change management expertise. I know how to create learning environments within community, for profit and not-for-profit organizations. *	Lip service, window dressing, lack of courage, beingn neglect	No

I would like to impart a general theme for the obelisk of inclusiveness, understanding, accepting, acknowledging and celebrating the diversity of this unique city and work with others to pursue and accomplish this in an amicable way.	I have a good general knowledge of Asheville and can speak to the diversity here. I understand that there are legal issues associated with the Vance Monument that have to be analyzed and worked through. I realize that people have strong opinions about these issues and I can listen to people vent without interrupting as well as help de-escalate arguments. I have adequate computer skills from working in offices for 30 years. I am a longtime member of the general art world and have some knowledge of materials associated with creating outdoor art. I like long-term projects and I can take on an assignment and figure out how to accomplish it. I love Asheville, but I know my city has flaws that need work.	I have been watching the ACS achievement gap for 25 years with frustration. I have observed how Asheville segregated our population with the building of the public housing projects. I understand the reasons why the riots at AHS happened and witnessed them. I was a member of a panel discussion on the desegregation of Asheville City Schools a few years back. I believe that Asheville has systematically destroyed and gentrified the Black neighborhoods and know that there is a high probability of Burton St. being in the way of the new highway soon. I've stayed curious about how Lee Walker Heights is being handled. My career in public education started in BCS as a parent/volunteer. I was a substitute teacher, (K-12 and specialists), for 3 years, and then an Instructional Assistant for 1st, 2nd grade classes for two years. With ACS, I was a 5th grade Instructional Assistant and then Data Manager/Receptionist at Vance School for 23 years. I've driven school and activity buses for 25 years. I've delivered children to and visited PVA, Klondyke, Hillcrest and the Erskine/Livingston area countless times and canvased at	None
i would like to have monuments that are inclusive, and that celebrate people who have done good things.	i am able to listen to other's opinions and to consider them fairly.	the racial inequities in asheville are enormous, from housing, to business ownership, to salary, to representation, to equity, and to having a voice that is actually being heard	no.
My hope and desire would be to complete the work in the spirit of what our Republic was founded on. As a group of concerned citizens discussing ideas and sharing opinions, respecting each other, and once all the material has been presented, complete the work assigned by the Commission be it a recommendation for or against the removal of the monument.	I feel my ability to maintain and open mind, to discuss and articule an issue and my concerns/opinions in a professional and respectful manner. This issue will have high emotions on both sides but the work must be conducted with respect to emotions but remain on sound, fact based footing.	It would be naive for anyone to think our area is absent of any inequalities. My Christian faith allows me to understand that I should love all. I was not taught by upbring or my faith to only love certain individuals, or nationalities. With that said, although I feel our county is in a very sensitive time, Asheville and Buncombe county possess visual proof that all manners of people can live and work side by side. Our diverse culture is proof it can work!	No
As someone who has done the homework to acheive significant things, I would look to gain community support for the replacement of the Vance Monument space, do something that most people would find productive, and also have a vision that is looked at positively for decades to come. This is not just about history. This is about how we represent our values.	I am gregarious by nature and a concenus builder. I have a large following because I deeply care about people. I'm applying to be on this team at the request of friends that I have in Buncombe County. In Detroit, I was able to raise the bar of charity fundraising at three major events. We went from raising thousands of dollars for non-profits to hundreds of thousands of dollars to support local causes	Despite making up less than 7 percent of the local population, African- Americans make up 21 percent of the jail population. Twelve percent of the Black population lives in poverty compared to 11% for hispanics and 4% for white people. In general they are the lower wage earners in almost every catagory of jobs except truck drivers.	I'm a semi retiree with no conflicting interests in regard to this task force.

As our community watches, we have an unprecidented opportunity to set an example of honor and inclusiveness. While honoring important leaders from the past, we also have the opportunity to honor those who have made contributions that have perhaps been marginalized. I am referring to the honor our African American community deserves. I have found that the best solution to seek is not one which will make everyone happy but rather seek to come up with a fair and equitable answer to our current dilemma. One does not find the best answer by seeking to please everyone, or even a select group, but seeking the answer that will bring justice and fairness to all. In the end, everyone will not be happy but what is needed in this situation, I feel, is a fair decision which represents the people of Buncombe County, while addressing the issues before us. I am not afraid of open and honest discusson where we sincerely listen and hear not only the pain of the past, but also the pain of the present. Openly communicating with respect and honor for each other will help move us forward with the best solutions.	My best contribution to this taskforce would quite honestly be, that I am NOT "colorblind". When I look at people, I see differences and uniqueness. I see and attempt to understand the various cultures in our communities. I see the injustice and inequities of our communities as well. I believe that being able to see our differences, including how we have treated/mistreated each other in the past and present, brings us to an open discussion of "where do we go from here?". The idea behind being "color blind" automatically signifies we are all equal and the same. We are not! Some have had opportunities - others have not. When we actually understand our differences and how those difference have affected us for good and bad, we are then able to move forward with productive communication. Having lived here for the majority of my life, I have a vested interest in the historical roots but also in a vision for the future that is fair to all. I was raised, schooled, worship and work alongside people from different backgrounds so it is part of my heritage. I also feel that having lived in Chicago and Miami for several years has brought some degree of	I am very much aware that systemic racism is a part of our community and some of that is in fact implicit bias which may be unintentional but none the less, present. It should be addressed at every level including the criminal justice system, health care system and community at large. It does trouble me that people of color are not afforded the same opportunities that I, as a white man have been given. I want to advocate for equality and be part of the solution to our community and not part of the problem. It will take all of us regardless of race, religion, or socio-economic back ground, to work together to bring peace to our city and community. My goal would be to see Asheville used as a model city where people of all backgrounds are lifted and given opportunity to reach their greatest potential.	none that I am aware of
I would like to achieve a resolution to this long-standing concern in the Asheville communities. It is my hope that the members of this Taskforce work together in harmony and respect for individual differences to achieve the goal of removing/replacing the Vance monument	I bring a willingness to listen to others and an ability to clearly communicate. I am a visionary and "big picture" thinker who is able to see through differences and uncover commonalities. I also bring a fresh perspective due to my lack of history in Asheville.	I see the racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County from the perspective of a new comer to the city and a new comer who's relocated from a large and racially/ethnically diverse city. From my perspective, Black people seem to be largely hidden and isolated in Asheville. It seems that we are underrepresented in most aspects of city life, from civic engagement to business opportunities to housing. Since I do not have children, I am not familiar with the degree to which educational inequities exist in Asheville, but I understand that these inequities also affect whether and how people of color participate and influence the growth and development of this city..	No conflicts
There is a need for more diversity in the public art collection. That diversity is not only diversity in the type of art that is represented and who it celebrates, but actually in the diversity of the artists who create this public art. There are people of color, specifically African-Americans, that played a vital role in the establishment of Asheville. For the longest time the contributions and the lived experiences of those people have been omitted from the dominant narrative. Asheville has deep roots within the African-American community. It is important to preserve that culture and remind us of the roots of this town. Public art is important. It is open to everyone. Visitors from other states and cities as well as local people can learn of the different historical things that have happened in Asheville. Involving both adults and students should be a priority. It should represent the community. It should be a community-informed	Life lessons which have formed some of my core principles. 1. We are a team - It takes a village. - Step outside yourself. - Assume positive intentions. 2. Swing for the fences - Think big, start small, move fast. - Be courageous. - Focus on today, build for tomorrow 3. Value communication - Be proactive. - Ask questions, get the details. - Collaborate candidly.	Layers of systemic racism exist throughout our society. Recent protests are not just about police violence, they are about the statistics Asheville's African-American community has been living with, day in and day out. We find systemic racism and inequity in policy areas including housing, health, education and employment. If we really intend on investing in Asheville, maybe we should begin addressing local efforts to alleviate poverty.	None.

To make people feel heard, to bear witness to their pain, and to honor their convictions. This is not going to be an easy task and the work of the committee will be surrounded by controversy. However I believe that providing everyone a chance to express their opinions (regardless of if they align with mine) and absolute transparency in the process will go a long way in softening some of that controversy. I also want to make Asheville a place where people feel welcome. It really is that simple. Asheville is for all of us, and having this conversation is one way to show we want to embrace and reflect our community.	Questions. It's easy to have opinions (and I certainly have mine) but questions probe for more information, for deeper understanding, and they help conversations stay on the end goal. It's easy to get lost in logistics and details and I feel that my skill is asking questions keeps committees focused on our outcomes and deliverables and within project timelines and deadlines.	While Asheville is known as a city that embraces all orientations, identities, and beliefs, we are indeed a racially diverse community. We are segregated and the inequalities are pronounced. A great deal of attention lately has focused on tumultuousness APD leadership, the death of Jerry, and the use of force during the recent protests. As a historian of the area, my knowledge goes deeper. I've researched slave schedules listing the enslavers of WNC, read scholarly works that dispute "no slaves in the mountains" myths, and I've available WNC Tomorrow's Black Oral History Project which interviewers Black WNC residents about life from the 1920s through the 1980s. I welcome the opportunity to help the public grapple with these histories of oppression and to bring about a process of truth and reconciliation.	None. I live on the South Slope and work at NOAA's National Centers for Environmental Information so I feel a strong connection to Asheville, but have no conflicts.
I want to represent the large numbers of people who may feel that changing this monument is an a front to our local history. These people may feel disenfranchised just like the ones we are trying now to represent more purely. I would not exchange one disenfranchised group for another. That is not real change, that is just getting your way. I believe there are ways to satisfy all parties if we look, listen, learn and obey what we find to be true. Truth always wins over falsehood just like real love always wins over hate. Let's trust our community to embrace truth when it is represented wholly, completely and not in a partisan way.	I will show up and do the job asked of me. I could go on for another 1360 characters but that is the bottom line. I'm a people person if that helps any.	Treating a fellow human being as an equal begins in the human heart. We have all seen and been in groups where some person or group of persons is treated in conversion or in deed in a less supportive way. Some of us have even seen and heard truly disparaging things spoken of others and can testify to the same. Herein ladies and gentlemen is the seed corn of what has become for some of us (be it in a family, neighborhood, hiking club, or wherever group); a desire not to accept everyone just the way they come, Black, White, Native American or in many other exteriors. This is the real understanding of our current racial inequalities in Asheville and Buncombe County. I am 65 years old tomorrow, born at Mission Hospital and grew up in Grove Park at the foot of Sunset Mountain. My father bought a beautiful brick house on Oak Lane off off Sunset Parkway in 1961 for $16,000. It was a true gift to live in the quiet beauty and civilized attitude of that blessed neighborhood, as Grove Park can certainly provide even today. All of my neighbors were doctors with their families, most had friends in Biltmore Forest and socialized at the club	I am a retired US Army Colonel and a Family Nurse Practitioner by trade, I have no property or business interests in Asheville or Buncombe County.
I want to make sure all sides are heard and multiple ideas considered that are rooted in fact, history and the communities needs as we move towards a more inclusive community. I want to make sure it is committee that thinks through all options and long term, not just considering the current political climate.	My willingness to learn and listen to all sides while providing factual, level headed information.	Systematic racism has been an unfortunate part of too many of America's citizens (and non-citizens), Asheville and much of the south feel many of these pains amplified by the glorification of of white male leaders who oppressed blacks and other minorities through slavery and other means. The average black American is treated as lesser by what our monuments, history books, and justice system tells them. We may say it is equal but it is not. Current events caught on tape and current political ideologies have brought the long underlying issues to a festering head.	I am on the Board of Asheville Cat Weirdos Emergency Fund along with Veroncia Coit who some view as antifa (which I really hope we are all anti-facist). She also recently received the governors award for volenteerism. That is really my only connection people could take issue with.

I'd like to hear from our community about what should be honored on this site. I'd like to bring in thoughts and voices from a wide group of community members. I'd like to research and learn more about the legal process in taking down this monument.	I look to these issues as a white woman who is raising young black boys. My perspective is unique in that I can understand the things said and unsaid by many white community members as to respecting history, but I also have seen first hand the very real racism that my young children have already had to confront. I'm sensitive and aware of just how real that is for many, many African Americans in our county, state and country. I also feel passionately about fostering a county atmosphere where my children, as well as all children, are safe and respected as they grow and develop into our next generation of leaders.	In the entire state, Asheville City Schools ranks as the worst school district when it comes to educating Black students. Few businesses are owned and operated by African Americans. The Black community tends to be more local income and more likely to be racially profiled by police. Though there is a growing number of African Americans in city leadership, there are still disparates that persist.	No.
Of course I'd love to see the Taskforce reach some definitive conclusions about the future of the space currently occupied by the Vance Monument. More than that, I would hope the Taskforce can work to build bridges among the diverse communities in Asheville, which often seem quite segregated, so that we may engage with one another more richly.	I'm a good listener and good at synthesizing large amounts of information. My best contribution will be my ability to hear and synthesize multiple viewpoints.	I understand that the area is largely segregated by race, that restrictive housing policies dating to the post- Reconstruction era have helped to entrench this segregation, that the wealth of black families is approximately 1/10 of that of white families, and that the State of Black Asheville -- including percentage of the city's population -- has declined over the past few decades.	I am not aware of any potential conflicts of interest at this time.
I would like to create an art peice with this Taskforce that spoke more on equality than singling out a race. It's about including all and working with all types of people to create someting beautiful. Something that represents equality. America would be nothing without its Black citizens without them being great poets, athletes, inventors, woodworkers, politicians, activists, humanitarians. The Vance monument is a sign of racial dicrimination and inequality and that is truly disgusting and inhumane. Asheville a place where mainly people such as the millennials and Gen Z fight for people regardless of what you look like but based on who one is not based on what White Americans have made Black Americans out to be. It would be amazing to create something to celebrate equality.	Working on concepts with the group, being able to digitally draw with a 3D cad program. Posssibly constructing it if need be. Being able carpartamentalize costs and materials. Or just to help in any way possible to accomplish this.	Asheville is still segregated and gets more and more that way due to gentrification, kicking low income familes out from their homes as richer white americans decide to move in from other states. It shouldnt be all about money and status yet it becomes that way. Inequality directly affects wealth, black families averagely have less wealth and private assets. Due to 2020 White families median wealth is 7 more times than black families. Home ownership provides a certain fairness which includes assets that is as component of generating wealth. The census in asheville of Black Americans is around 12 percent, 50 percent live in subsidized housing situations, due to not having the same oppurtunities as White Americans in Asheville.	Not that I can think of.

I think the success of this work is tied to advancing understanding of the impact that structural/systemic racism and poverty has on all members of our community while centering the work on the experience of African Americans. I would like to see the work of the Taskforce explicitly address developing communication about the WHY that speaks to a wide range of interests and intentionally engages communities that are ambivalent and/or threatened by removal of the monument; a long term commitment and plan for educating and advancing the work of dismantling structural and systemic racism and poverty in our community - this is just an initial step and should not be done without a plan for accountability to the bigger work that needs to be done; and intentionally addressing the potential for this work to escalate violence against Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. I am also committed to lifting up and being guided by the voice(s) and leadership of Black Asheville.	My passion and commitment to this work AND my skills in listening and identifying both/and solutions in the midst of conflict and complexity. I don't expect this work to be easy or comfortable. My commitment to this being a healing experience for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in our community AND educational and potentially healing for White people grounds me in my discernment about whether to apply for the Task Force. I am very used to "messy" work and as a White woman am very aware of the discomfort that comes with dismantling White Supremacy in myself and our society. I can be a voice for how important it is for White people to be engaged in this work and intentionally dismantle the systems that are destroying our country. It is structural and systemic racism and poverty (the two are inextricably intertwined) that has led to 47% of the people living in the US experiencing poverty or low-wealth. In raw numbers, more White people are living in poverty AND yet continue to elect officials who perpetuate policies and practices that create the situations they are living in because of the long standing false moral narrative that lifts up White	I believe I have peppered my responses above with information that speaks to this question. I will add here that the Buncombe County CHIP Leadership and Advisory Council has been integral in the process of BC Health and Human Services Board passing the resolution declaring structural and systemic racism a public health crisis. I have been actively involved in the process of lifting up health inequities and the social determinants of health that drive unacceptable outcomes in our community for several years. As mentioned above, historical and current policies and practices that are rooted in systemic racism are key to the long list of inequities black and brown people in our community are experiencing: life expectancy; infant mortality; diabetes mortality; lung cancer prevalence and mortality; academic achievement; economic opportunity - unemployment, average wage; and access to health care, including behavioral health. The list is long. I do want to lift up one measure that highlights the prevalence of racist policies and practices in our	I am not aware of any specific conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during my service on the taskforce.
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Bring people together to look at what best serves the community. Having to look at a solution that not only can be accomplished in timeline but not break all the coffers. We need to be able to look at all sides and avoid major conflicts. NO one is perfect, we need to still be able to show pride. Not to show pride and say well there was that one really bad thing!	As a Healthcare Provider in the area for several years, I have served our citizens. I am one of the working class, brought up in a single parent home, that struggled. I understand the plight of many. I know I have not experienced what many have but I have had my challenges and can understand that of others. I can easily be emphatic and want us to work together to solve an issue.	Where to start, we have a long history of racial problems that overwhelming destroy boundaries of socioeconomic s and basic life needs. Maselow hierarchy of needs states safety first. The basics of shelter, safety, and food are there. We have long overlooked and misguided approaches in dealing with these basics. If people are fighting for basics to live much less education and attempting to grow as a citizen and person we are failing. Race is important especially in this issue because certain people are facing a MUCH harder and sometimes fixed fight. Again no one is perfect, but everyone deserves a chance. We have tried hand outs for many many years. NO one has simply provided the ease of a hand up. Racially this is a huge issue, instead of the hand up certain sectors of our citizenship have faced constant struggles, intimidation, and disadvantages others can easily overlook. OUT of site is out of mind.	I declare no awareness of any conflict of interest that would prevent me from serving. I do work from home, however do travel frequently for work in a normal (precovid) world. Remote access to meetings/ calls will have to be available.
I would like to be a part of resolving the pain this monument has caused our Black community here is Asheville.	My ability to listen and empathize with others points of view .	As a former teacher I know that the achievement gap in Asheville City Schools will never be closed until the problem of poverty, food insecurity, drug abuse and under employment in our African American community is dealt with. Our city sin of urban renewal decimated the African American communities of this city. The razing of Stephens Lee High practically erased the history of our Black community killing the desire and trust of that community. At least six members of this task force must be from our Black community.	None I am aware of
Bring unity to our communities. We have to put and end to this.	my energy and the community will have a ear to talk to.	I personally think it is a misunderstanding. there is Racial inequities in all races. whether Indian ,Hispanic or black or white. This can be fixed our biggest enemy is the media. Lets get the real facts from the voices in Buncombe that are	no not at all
Something that cathardic among those divided, we have a chance to set a standard to bring unity. Have to give it your all if you want people to adopt it.	Listening, i cant emphatize the most important thing is to listen. Hearing peoples perspective and understanding is crucial. You can build a bridge yourself, or you can have someone on the otherside meet you half way their.	Truth be told im ignorant in that field as i mostly keep to myself.	None that i can think of currently
I would like the opportunity to work with local members of our community to stand together to declare "No Hate in the 828!" while working to respectfully preserve Southern Heritage in our Great State of North Carolina.	In a time when opinions in our country are so divided, many people from both sides of the argument resort to shouting. My grandfather, Reverend Glenn R. Hatfield, taught me to listen. He taught me to listen without judgement. He taught me to listen to hear where connections have been missed, and not just reflect anger back. That is my strength and that would be my best contribution: ears ready to hear.	I live on the outskirts of Buncombe County in Barnardsville, not too far from the Vance Birthplace, and I don't know very much about the racial inequities in Asheville. I'm not an ignorant person, I follow the news, but I just don't have much of any contact with local ethnic communities.	I work as a residential contractor and own no property within City Limits. I have no potential conflicts of interest.

I consciously chose Asheville as my home- not because of a job opportunity, investment purposes, etc.-but because I genuinely felt a calling to this city. I invested in this city by buying a home and laying down roots. This city is not where I need it to be so that I feel comfortable in public spaces, but I am willing to do the work to ensure Asheville is welcoming to people of color. If appointed to the Taskforce, I would like to remove the Vance monument and by way of replacing it with someone worth honoring, help be a part of the voice that signals to our community that racism is not tolerated in our city, just as it should not be tolerated anywhere else in the world.	Through my career, I have honed in on a practical skillset, however I am a creative at heart. I believe my biggest contribution to the Taskforce will be my ability to approach problems with a dual lens, which creatively assess options, while being mindful of practical hurdles we will need to overcome in order to remove the Vance monument. This coupled with my unwavering dedication to the antiracism cause will serve as the primary strength I can bring to this Taskforce.	I witness racial inequities in Asheville, at my job, and in my life every day. Systemic racism is a nationwide issue and I knew Asheville would not (could not) be exempt from this issue. I still remember searching "Vance" when my sister and I passed by it and not being surprised when we learned that he was a slave owner. I should have been shocked and outraged, but we've been conditioned to expect and normalize racism and monuments like the Vance memorial reinforce how deeply entrenched and normalized symbols of racism are in our country.	No.
I believe the central square where the Vance Monument currently resides should be fundamentally re- addressed. I would favor moving the monument itself to another location, perhaps resettling it at Vance Birthplace historical site in Reem's Creek valley. I'm actually more interested in what sequences into that space with the monument no longer there. I very much admire Mel Chin's "Wake" installation and I'm wondering about the possibility of changeable art in that space so that it becomes a stage for dialogue and discussion from year to year. How we establish a jurying process for such an exhibit is of particular concern and the artistic and subject- matter perameters of the art itself which I believe should come down on diversity, history and truth-telling.	Whether I am chosen to be a member of this group or not, I am hoping that this taskforce will be woven of people of all colors, ethnic backgrounds, ages and interests. It is extremely important that it reflect black and brown points of view and historical perspectives. A thorough sense of history should be represented, as well as a full - throated voicing of where we go from here as a community. I am currently in my early seventies and I would welcome youthful thinking, regardless of age. Mainly what I bring to the party are the sensibilities of a writer and artist who has worked with hundreds of creative people over a long career in communications. Perhaps more than that, I am a dedicated student of urban design, urban parks and spaces (particularly Olmsted designs), issues of justice (I studied the Supreme Court in graduate school), the potential of rural and urban community development and the crucial role of getting history right. I deeply care about this town.	I'm acutely aware of the red-lining and urban "renewal" catastrophe that took place here in the sixties. I'm also concerned about the "flight" of black Ashevillians from the city simply because much of their community was squeezed out and social and business centers of their community lost weight and soul. The inequities continue to exist--big time--but I am extremely hopeful, with a renewed sense of "rightness" gaining in strength both nationally and locally that we can be a lead progressive community in rebalancing, celebrating black lives, working together and creating a new consciousness and a community to be proud of. I think we're on the cusp of a creative opportunity of great scale.	Zero that I know of.
The removal of offensive elements/monuments that divide our community and the creation of new elements/monuments that unite Asheville in powerful and sustainable ways.	I am a thoughtful listener and creative problemsolver. I am a great planner and public speaker.	The top 3 that come to mind are The education gap in our public schools The unemployment crisis for black men in Asheville The disproportionate rate that police stop, arrest, and sentance people of color compared to the white community.	no

I believe the best path forward for the Vance Monument is to re-purpose it rather than remove it. Its prominent location and historical significance is important. Re-purposing it to something that is meaningful to the African-American community while acknowledging the reason it was dedicated in the beginning. Perhaps create a monument to truth. Acknowledge that it was originally dedicated to Zeb Vance, but also acknowledge the truth about his racial beliefs. His story would be only part of what would be truthfully told about that spot and all that has happened in its shadow.	Calm resolve and respect for all opinions even if I disagree.	I taught 7th grade SC History in 1969/70 in Greenwood, SC. It was the first year of freedom of choice integration. I saw the struggles that the black students faced and the systematic racism that existed. I know many African-Americans in Asheville face the same struggles today. I know that the poor and disadvantaged of any race are the first to face economic volatility and the last to recover. I know that the cost of living and the difficulty of earning a living in Asheville, especially for under educated minorities leads to frustration and despair. I also know that change is frightening and rapid change is the most frightening. People resist change, especially when it threatens their long held beliefs and the idols with which they identify.	I am not aware of any conflicts.
I would like to help the committee make an informed decision and not one based solely on emotions or politics of this time as this decision will have repercussions for future generations.	I come into this as a native of Western North Carolina but with an open mind about the monument. I have not predetermined what should or should not be done with the monument. I hope to bring in historical data that would help the committee to make their decision.	My wife is a minority and our two daughters are biracial. I also teach in an area high school that a large part of the student population come from low-income families. I believe this area is dealing with any racial inequities better than other areas of the country.	I do not have any potential conflicts of interest.
To help improve race relations in a healthy way other than knocking down our history. Those who forget there history is bound to repeat it	I'm a level headed male that always thing problem thru and from ever angle	You know I went to C.D Owen high school from 81 to 85 and race never came into play in school we all looked at each other simply as human. I've never been racist and never will. I remember other schools having so called race wars and couldn't understand why. Some things never change huh	None
An outcome that addresses the underlying concern while seeking a face saving outcome that won't leave bitter feelings that could foment over time. It may not be possible, but it is worth attempting,	An outsider perspective. An ability to try to help others understand why some feel the way they do. Leadership ability having lead boards and served on committee and commissions. I won the Community Bridge Award in Orange County California from the Men's Chorus of Orange County for working to bridge the gap in the community between the LGBT community and the broader community.	White privilege, something which white residents don't actually understand what is meant by it, creates barriers, conflict and missed opportunities. I spent a semester in Nairobi Kenya going to school and encountered the microaggressions black American feel here. It made me understand how subtle racism can be. For example, selective enforcement of rules and laws. A security guard ALWAYS checked my ID while waving African students through. I forgot it once and was denied entry. When challenged, she told the Dean "They all look alike to me." (Seriously) The dean could have simply noted I didn't have my ID and therefore the rules should be applied. She understood it was about selective enforcement. I can provide similar examples.	I don't thing there are any. I am a volunteer with The Preservation Society of Asheville and Buncombe County. I believe they are going to try to get a representative named to this.

The installation of artwork that represents African American progress and value. Clarification of the Vance Monument, why it was built, and what it represents, both connotatively and structurally.	1. I am a political independent: a fiscal conservative and a social liberal. Buncombe county is around 42% conservative. City Council vote was unanimous for removal or other. County was split 4-3. In order to prevent pushback from history buffs and conservatives (to include years of expensive lawsuits and protests) the board needs to select at least a partial conservative to provide the appearance of bipartisanship. 2. I have years of experience researching documentation online in order to establish reasoning and discover precedents. 3. As a business person I understand the need to keep tourism alive. When I tell people I live in Asheville the first thing I hear is "Oh Biltmore House!" the second is "Art Deco and that big monument thing downtown!" 4. As a social worker and therapist I have compassion for those who have been wronged and have strong negotiation skills.	As compared to the white population: Statistically: 1.Higher arrests per capita. (about 20 percent of jail population: less than 10% of population) 2.Higher use of addictive substances. 3. Lower property ownership. 4. Lower income. 5. Lower education levels. Anecdotally (from experience working with substance abuse clients): 1. Higher levels in reported feelings of hopelessness and helplessness (prior to treatment.) 2. Higher level of reported trauma and PTSD reported due to to living circumstances. 3. Higher levels of reported child hood trauma. 3. Higher level of reported perceived external locus of control. 4. Higher level of reported feelings of "not being heard."	No
I would like to see realized the kind of response to the Vance Monument that the public art project, Celebrating African Americans through Public Art (CAAPA), was intended to acheive: the reclamation of public space by the African- American community.	First, I have organizational and administrative experience from my five year term on the Public Art Commission, and served as a liaison between the African-American community and the City of Asheville through the CAAPA project. Further, I teach college-level courses and have published essays on the racial dimension of public art and monuments. I know the history, the arguments, and the politics. I can help draft proposals, policy recommendations, and, more generally, can help make the case to the general public for the plans and priorities of the VM Taskforce. I see this as an educational opportunity and an opportunity to contribute meaningfully to public debate on behalf of the Black community at a crucial moment in Asheville's histor.	As a white person, my understanding of racial inequities wherever I live will never be comparable to the lived understanding of People of Color. My understanding comes strictly from listening, paying attention, staying informed, and participating in the cause of racial justice in both my personal and professional life as an educator. Even a minimal awareness of Asheville's history of race and racism--The Block, Stumptown, Stevens Lee, Shiloh, Johnny Germaine Rush, and, of course, the Vance Monument--makes abundantly clear the urgent need to adapt the visual landscape of Asheville and Buncombe County to the long overdue calls for racial justice being voiced everywhere.	None
To come up with a decision that everyone is happy with or compromise to get everyone to settle down and start thinking objectively. We can't give in to every special interest request or there will be no city left. There will always be someone that is offended by something in this day and age but we can try to work together to make everyone happy. This situation is going to open pandora's box if it is not handled correctly and carefully.	Giving an objective well thought our opinion and I am empathetic to people's feelings. I am in sales so I know how to negotiate and work with different personalities. I would love the challenge to improve this city.	I unfortunately think there are bad apples in all bunches. It will take years and new generations of people before racism is totally gone. Unfortunately these protests and riots are not helping the cause for the African American community. I believe that Black Lives Matter is a worthy cause but it has been overshadowed by quite frankly a bunch of uneducated idiots that are doing destruction to our cities. This has created nothing but animosity to the cause. There are issues but they aren't as bad as we are seeing with these rallies, riots, social media, etc.	None at all
The removal of the Vance Monument from downtown.	My ability to speak native.	The black community is very small in Asheville and have always been unfairly targeted by police my entire life. I grew Up going to Weaverville schools where I watched the only black girl in my class, also my best friend, was tormented for the color of her skin. I want to see this area change.	No.

Bring a solution that 75% of the community approves of.	Level head. Understand how a committee works. Not a grandstander.	I am fortunate to work with Kevin Green, a black man. We have worked together for 21 years and have had many discussions on race and inequality. I have a been in business partnership with James Brooks, a black man. He has provided wisdom and insight. I have been friends for over 10 years with Derek Robinson, a black and retired SHP. He also has given me invaluable perspective on race. Finally, years ago I worked for Al Whitesides. There is not a better person in Buncombe County.	NA
I would like to put to an end the divisiveness we see daily in our community. I would like for our community to truly come together to create a foundation on which we can build and move forward not as seperate races, but as citizens who share a common bond and history.	As an organizational member who can be tasked and trusted to reach a solution which is equitable and fair to all.	Asheville, at one time was an area where blacks and whites intermingled in schools, churches and community activities of all types. The gentrification of Asheville has driven a wedge between the black community and the transplanted downtown population. The joke is that when the diverse and acceptable people started moving in, the black community was left out. Some joke, huh. Hands need to reach out in both directions and I am willing and eager to be a part of that process.	None
1). Improve equity and equality for all persons resident and non-resident alike. 2). Help all members of the community become equally engaged in and benefited by the actions of city, county, and state government. 3). Provide the path to a model of inclusion that might help other communities mitigate racial and cultural injustice in their pasts and futures.	Listening, synthesizing perspectives, and assisting in the preparation of communications. Advocacy for basing decisions on verifiable data and for establishing metrics to measure progress. Area universities have excellent sources that can assist the taskforce in these areas.	Our economy is based on tourism as it has been since the opening of the Buncombe Turnpike in the 1820s. Since that time, our economy has depended on racially, socially, and economically disadvantaged people to function. Non-whites are discriminated against in employment, housing, education, and access to quality health care. Race is the most visible symptom of discrimination. Should we not consider cultural and economic discrimination as well?	Not to my knowledge
To see a solution that causes the least amount of pain to all citizens ov every viewpoint.	Calm. | admit that | want to see the statues go to a private location and that | want to see the Vance memorial 're-dedicated to an ideal, rather than to a person. But that's just me. COVID isolation has prevented me from discussing this with my friends, both black and white. It is certain that there are other solutions that well worthy of consideration. In short, | listen. What	Immediate and severe - driven mostly by age-old prejudice and partly by the economic reality of living in an area whereall real estate is expensive.	None. Retired and| live in Chunn's Cove.

I would hope that the committee would try to determine the design goals of this and any artwork of the community. If the monolith is part of the icons of the community and thus is how the world views Asheville, we should have a sober reason to deacestion the image , and to be prepared for replacement.	My work will have the advantage of design and knowledge having had experiences of building such.	I would expand that the problem of bigotry is far greater than the current black white issues. Who is saying that the current crisis is more important than religious sexual , monetary , or age discrimination.	No.
I hope that this moment is an opportunity for the people of Buncombe County to critically examine our own history. We love to tout to visitors our region's rich heritage, yet, most of what we present to these more than 9 million people each year is a polished narrative that undermines not only our African American community, but Buncombe County's rural citizens. It is time for us to find a way to provide access to historic resources in a way that does not venerate just one person, but our entire community.	As a researcher of 19th century history and collections manager of the North Carolina Room, I can help the group by providing easy access to primary sources as well as scholarly sources that will contextualize Vance, the monument, Ashevile's public square and historic architechture, as well as any other historical topics that may arise.	Buncombe County is a community that prides itself on its diversity and progressive ideals, however, when we look at the statistics, not everyone in Buncombe County has the same opportunity to succeed, thrive, and feel truly at home in our area. Black and brown children in Asheville City Schools face one of the largest achievement gaps in the country. Historically Black and Brown neighborhoods (that were not destroyed by the Urban Renewal of the 1970s and 1980s) are facing gentrification at an alarming rate as short term rental landlords and "elite empty nesters" gobble up cheap real estate. Meanwhile, the Asheville Police Department interacts with Black and Brown residents at a higher rate than white residents. Finally, Black and Brown citizens of Buncombe County do not have fair respresentation in our historic resources, both architecturally and archivally.	I am an employee of Buncombe County.
First, its important that we hear many voices in the matter of the effect of the Vance Monument ,as it now stands, has on their own self worth and value system. Second, listen to suggestions for alternatives for the monument. Third, as a board review all of the above, realizing that we too will have an opinion need to subordinate our own bias to be totally open to all considerations. Fourth, compile a unanimous recommendation to submit to Asheville City and Buncombe County boards	My life long career in human relations including race relations and international relations. To be supportive in accepting the value of all persons	Factors for consideration are numerous. So much is one's perspective, so "Let every voice be heard". The city has a larger Afro-American population than the county. The Afro-American community is highly diverse ranging from homeowner communities to housing support communities. Educational budget is higher per pupil in the city than in the county. Yet the schools population in the city is considerably smaller than the 40 plus schools in the county.	I see no conflict of interest in serving on this board. I am a property owner in the integrated Montford community. My friendships are throughout this community, several business owners in downtown Asheville and numerous others throughout the city. I am part of the congregation of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church. Likewise, through my wife's family in Dillingham, NC I have relatives and friends in the county. In fact I'm Ex.Dir. Emeritus of the Big Ivy Historical Society. We are land owners in Big Ivy basically of my wife's inheritance. The book my daughter and I co-author, "Insiders Guide to NC Mtn. etc" now in its 11th edition is an unbiased

-Retired police detective with over 27 years law enforcement experience (Suffolk County, NY). -Assignments that included but were not limited to investigating crimes of domestic violence, elder abuse, child physical and sexual abuse, as well as hate crimes that targeted persons or property based on their race, religion, ethnicity, sexual orientation, color, national origin, ancestry, gender, age or disability. -Former President of the Suffolk County Association of Women Police. -B.A. Psychology and Sociology, Hofstra University, Hempstead, NY	I am a thorough and conscientious worker who takes commitments seriously. I bring good leadership skills as well as an ability to listen to others. I am known for my tenacity and determination in seeing projects and assignments through to their completion. These skills together with a willingness to work as part of a larger team will be my best contribution to the Taskforce.	Racism is a nationwide problem and Buncombe County is no exception. Like elsewhere, many members of minority communities have experienced a negative relationship with local law enforcement. Oppression, real or perceived, has long lasting implications. A lack of transparency about inequities only serves to further erode progress toward a better future for ALL. A lack of effort to listen to and understand the plight of our fellow human can leave us with a view that is absent of compassion and empathy.	I have NO conflicts of interest.
In terms of finding a solution to the fraught symbolism and legacy embodied by the Vance Monument, I am interested in helping to develop a community-based restorative justice model that would allow for dialogue and recognition of the trauma experienced by African Americans as a result of the systematic racism that underscores life in the United States -- and as manifest in the persistence of such monuments. Further, I am committed to fostering thoughtful collaboration in an effort to find consensus and foment appropriate action in terms of moving the city and county forward from this moment.	I am a teacher, and I have worked hard over the course of my career to foster a classroom space in which productive and respectful dialogue can take place -- even when the subjects for discussion are challenging and politically fraught. I would hope to be able to bring that skill to this collaborative effort to find productive solutions. Further, as an academic, I can provide historical and social context about race and racism in the US, as well as the discourse that is shaping current conversations about the police, protest, and social unrest that I think will prove helpful in making decisions about the Vance Monument.	My ancestors came to Buncombe and Transylvania Counties in the 1700s. I have been on scholarly leave during spring of 2020 so that I can work on a book about (at least in part) my family's presence in this region. In doing that work, I have been introduced to Buncombe County's Register of Deeds database which includes over 600 bills of sale for enslaved peoples. I have also researched the South Ashevillle Cemetery (http://www.southashevillecemetery.net/history). I have done extensive work to learn about racial inequities in the region as well the historical background for why they exist and how they shape contemporary politics in the region. This work has been in the interest of placing my family history in conversation with the histories and contemporary realities of African Americans in Buncombe County. I am aware of the pervasive myth that there were no slaves in WNC (since there were no large scale plantations in this area) and the ways that myth has served to erase the legacy of slavery in this region. Current racial inequities continue to shape the experiences of black people in the region in the present	NA
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Asheville already presents so many wonderful things to our citizens and our visitors from around the world. Replacing the Vance Monument with something created by an artist of color would be such an added gift. Our Appalachian history is rich with diversity that isn't commonly showcased, and this seems like a rare opportunity to both show our local citizens that their community is humane and just, and to showcase a unique attraction for visitors.	Professionalism, mediation, and a technical understanding of construction with an ability to educate the layperson about it.	I have been aware for many years that the Vance Monument is a point of pain for many of the people in our community, so the replacement of it seems a simple and obvious positive. Other racial inequalities in Asheville and Buncombe County are beyond my level of understanding, but I know they exist and am hopeful to listen and learn as our community grows.	None
If appointed to the task force, I'd like to achieve a collaborative outcome that reflects the best of what our city has to offer and who we are as a community. I'd like to see a monument that our entire city can be proud of at the center of our downtown area, and I'd like this to be a concrete step towards healing racial disparities and injustices.	I believe my best contribution to the task force is two fold. First, I am a trained ethicist with a specific focus on social justice and racial justice issues, and as such I will stand firmly on the side of justice and inclusion, both in my word and in my action. Second, I am a listener, a collaborator, and an organizer. I am adept at hearing all sides of an argument or of a narrative, and working toward the realization of the best outcome for all involved.	My understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe county is that they are the natural outcome of our failures to sincerely commit to policies and procedures that ensured racial equity in the past. Furthermore, as a community educator in the health care field, my understanding of our current racial inequities involves seeing the intersectionality of these inequities, and how they are a primary factor in the health challenges and disparities within the African American community, and our WNC community as a whole. In order for Asheville to be the best place for all to live, work, and visit, it must be inclusive, just, and transparent. As a city, we must admit the pain we have caused through overlooking the history of our African American community, and work to make a better future that honors the lives of the true role models that helped to build this very special place. Removing Confederate statues and replacing them with inclusive monuments that uphold our ideals is just one step in this process, and I am here for the long haul.	I have no conflicts of interest.
If appointed, I hope that I can help Black community members feel heard. I would like to work with the task force to make a swift decision on how to best remove two confederate statues located at the Buncombe County Courthouse and Pack Square Park. Also, I want to work with the task force to quickly recommend action regarding the removal or repurposing of the Vance monument.	I am conscientious and fair, and I believe in listening to all sides and then using compassion to bring about a just outcome.	As a former director of the Asheville City Schools Foundation, I am well aware of the achievement gap in our local schools. As a 10+ year member of the Buncombe County Family Drug Treatment Court team, I have seen how racial inequities tear apart families. As a former high school teacher of African-American Literature and American History, I have studied the enslavement of Black people, the Civil War, and Reconstruction. I was an educational mentor for a young student in Hillcrest, and I have seen first-hand how our community is failing our young Black students. I would love to be of service in the effort to reflect this city's true history.	No, I'm not aware of any conflicts of interest.

As a part of the Taskforce, I would like to contribute to a visionary pursuit of the re-purposement of public space (which can be done through removal an/or creative interventions) to reflect the welcoming ethos of Asheville that also serves as a progressive model not only for the South but for the country. By amplifying BIPOC voices, we can generate profound public engagement of which our city and region could be proud. I would be honored to help elevate those voices and histories through whatever support I could offer as a curator, arts writer, arts administrator, local, development professional or otherwise.	My best contribution to the Taskforce will be my art historical knowledge of monuments as well as my demonstrated skillsets working with contemporary artists to critically write about art and public space. I believe that I could contribute my analysis, both visual and written, to the vision of what could be an amazing space for all. Professionally, the successful projects I have researched, developed, and implemented in collaboration with artists could serve to inform the development of this project. Due to my beliefs and passion, if there is a candidate of color who has a successful history of working with artists, writing about art, and an understanding of public space, I would encourage you to select them for the Taskforce, and my services could be called upon on a volunteer basis.	As a resident of Asheville since November 2016, I have worked at and with several cultural nonprofit institutions, including the Asheville Art Museum & the Center for Craft. As an historian instrumental in the curatorial team who reinstalled and interpreted the Museum's collection, what I learned about the racial inequities in Asheville's history greatly informs my understanding of racial inequity in our region today. My nonprofit work has led me to partnerships and other working relationships with various institutions, including The YMI, LEAF, DeWayne Barton and Hoodhuggers, Stephens Lee High School alumni, the Eastern Band of the Cherokee Indian, the Campaign for Southern Equality, and others.	I do not have any conflicts of interest.
To help the Asheville /Buncombe County community create something that helps all of us remember our histories with pride, motivates all of us to make our future better, reminds all of us of what is possible with commitment to be 'of ALL the people, by ALL the people, for ALL the people"	Facilitating conversation, offering language to most-effectively communicate the work, findings and recommendations of the taskforce.	Asheville / Buncombe County historically and presently is bound by systemic inequities that work together to concentrate non-whites into less desirable housing, lower- paying employment with lower potential for advancement, less robust schools, less access to healthcare and less robust healthcare and overcoming those systemic inequities by individuals is the exception, not the rule.	None at this time
My ultimate goal is to come up with a solution that will acknowledge the All Lives Matter movement and its affect on the Southern Heritage. I propose a monument to the BLM Movement and the "Former" Vance Monument. Something very "Asheville". Something that will take the landmark up a few levels.	A unique physical and design perspective on the monument.	I fully support the BLM movement: https://islandconnectionnews.com/m aking-a-difference-3/ At first glance, i thought this was the wrong time to talk about removing the Souther Monuments. But now, it is EXACTLY the right time to proceed. Let's not loose the momentum!	Living adjacent to the monument might seem like a conflict, but it gives me a unique perspective. I am looking forward to helping make the change. I have no financial interest and whatever happens will have no negative affect on my property value.
A sense that we cannot white wash our past. The slavery issue was hotly debated from during 1800's and boiled over when Lincoln took office.	To question how far do we go? What is historical and not part of the Jim Crow intimidation.	I have lived in Buncombe County for 23 years and visited historical sites.	I have no conflicts of interest.

As I said before, I really want this to be done in a fair representation of all of the communities in our city and outskirts. This city does belong to those of us who do not live in the city proper, but in communities that pay taxes to Asheville and have a vested interest in the actions of our leaders. I am a strong believer in the fact that ALL lives matter and should be considered. A knee jerk reaction to protests is not a fair choice. This task force makes it fair.	My value of fairness for all. I am also a great researcher of information. I can carry on a conversation about these matters without emotions clouding my thinking.	Education is the largest inequity and the understanding of how an education can help you become a productive citizen in this life. Having been a teacher in the city of Asheville, I am aware that parents and teachers have to have conversations about who can read and who cannot read. No student can take advantage of what the city offers in their schools if they cannot read. Hearts and attitudes have to change in all peoples in order for them to get along. As far as the police department goes, most policemen are kind and understanding. However, some still have attitudes about Black people as soon as they see them...training and communication is highly needed.	None
I would like to listen carefully to learn what it's like to be offended by a structure that was built as a monument. Although I know it is not possible, by listening to others, I would like to try to understand the pain caused by its very existence. I would like to know if it's even possible to remove plaques and "repurpose" that structure, or if the pain would remain.	My best contribution will be my effort to keep an open mind and and open heart as we explore to see if we can preserve a Richard Sharp Smith Asheville landmark originally created as a monument to a native son who became a governor, or will it always cause pain as a reminder of the confederacy? I think it is significant that the monument was created as an Asheville landmark by Pack and Smith in 1897; how its fate will be handled now: take it down or repurpose is also significant history. We live in this struggle.	I know the current racial inequities are huge, but I am sorry to say that I know very little.	No. None.
Honestly, I feel strongly the monument needs to removed, but I am open to hearing other people's suggestions. I hope to use my white privilege to boost the voices of BIPOC on what happens next with the monument.	I am very organized, good with spreadsheets, I am reliable and dependable. When I make a commitment I see it through to the end. I am willing to have uncomfortable conversations about race. I have White privilege and if there is a way I can use it to uplift the Black community through this task force, then I want to contribute that.	I am still learning about this. I have seen several black-owned businesses close down since I first came here in 2008. It seems to me that Asheville is extremely segregated and has gotten worse over the years. Even if I am not chosen for this task force, educating myself on the racist history in Asheville is still something I am committed to. I plan to sign up for Hood Huggers tours and I am on the waitlist for Building Bridges. I know this is not enough and is only a start as I discover what other resources are available to learn more about Asheville's history and the current racial inequities.	I am a Licensed Clinical Mental Health Counselor, so the only potential conflict is if a current or former client of mine happens to also be chosen to be on the task force. I think the chances of this are unlikely, but if it were to happen, I would have a conversation with the client about their level of comfortability and boundaries. If it is too much of a potential conflict then I will step down from my position in the task force.

As close to a harmonious outcome as possible for the citizens of Asheville. I would also like to be a part of establishing more equality and recognition for all citizens of Buncomeb County.	A think-outside-the-box approach to problem solving.	My opinion, based on my own observation, is that Asheville's black community is largely invisible compared to the white community, and that that dynamic is hopefully starting to shift. I understand that there is a significant hisotry of the supression and displacement of the black community in Buncombe County, in both Asheville and Black Mountain, but that the contributions of these commnunities to our county have been rich and meaningful despite what some may argue is a lack of appreciation for them at best. I also understand there has been mistreatment of members of the black cimmunity in this county, particularly by law enforcement, and that this imbalance needs to be recognized, addressed, and kept in consideration moving forward as a unified community.	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest on my part, no.
Ultimately, to remove the monument and have it replaced with something that better represents our community, or directly honors the Black community. I would like to make sure the Black thoughts and feelings about what should be placed in that spot are held up and honored above all others. The ultimate achievement would be creating a bridge between the city and Black communities, so that they feel empowered and seen, and begin to carve their own voice and place in the community.	I am a fair and dedicated individual, and respect others. I am a professional educator and can communicate calmly and effectively. I am an intersectional feminist who is well-educated on the issues at hand, and loyal to making a change. I know when to support others, and when to be quiet and let others speak for themselves. I am also pretty funny and can be lighthearted, when it's needed. At my core, I am someone who cares deeply about making sure others feel seen, heard, and supported, and I try to amplify that when working with others. I am also very task-oriented and like to get stuff done--ideas are great, but I'm a doer.	The racial inequities span from lack of housing for POC communities to them being incarcerated and arrested at exponentially higher rates than white citizens. People of color in Asheville have less access to quality job, education/schools, and transportation. They are targeted for drug-related charges at a higher rate than white people, and serve longer sentences when they're charged. We have gentrified many spaces that were historically part of Black Asheville, and have pushed these families out to create more space for tourists and businesses. We do not provide as many loans or professional guidance for BIPOC entrepreneurs, which is reflected in our lack of diverse business owners. We have few dedicated spaces for Black and POC communities to celebrate and share their rich culture and history with the rest of the city. We lack diversity, inclusion, and equity in our city leaders and policies. We have such a long way to go here.	No
The preservation of the monument with another dedication other than Vance.	A true love going back many, many generations for Asheville and Buncombe County.	As much of America, there are inequities in housing, employment opportunities, excessive police brutality, and general discrimination due to ignorance of true history that has not been taught in schools, ever, about Native Americans or Blacks (which I am told they prefer to African Americans, because they all did not come from Africa, but the Caribbean, too).	I own a home in North Asheville, I have owned a business in Asheville that I sold in 1995. I can not think of any conflicts of interest.

I would like to see the Obelisk remain. Possibly, remove Vance reminders to those who feel offended, but implement a plaque to the Artist, Builders and those who donated to erect the Obelisk in the mid 1800's. It is an ICON of Asheville, and I always encourage my friends who visit from other states to park and walk downtown in the Square area to view this beautiful art, as well as the surrounding buildings (of beautiful architecture) that remain from the past. I have no animosity against anyone, but sincerely feel this is an Icon of Asheville.	My contribution would be representing the native born and raised portion of individuals in Asheville. I was born at St. Joseph's Hospital on Biltmore Avenue, as were most of my family and friends. I wish to represent the many I have spoken with who say, they too, feel the Obelisk is an Icon of our History of life in Buncombe County.	I am sad that History has been the way it was. Today's media has brought more attention to the past than ever, and all should be educated about the past. We cannot change the past, but can become more understanding of everyone's feelings. History teaches, but cannot be undone. Moving forward is our best option to be better Citizens, not to destroy, but to build relationships.	I have no conflict of interests.
I would like this to be a well though- out, deliberative process and more than a knee-jerk rush to tear the monument down.	Im fair-minded and I think Im somewhat more conservative than the average resident, so would help bring balance to the taskforce info you're interested in that.	I dont have much awareness of the African-American community here in Asheville	None
I would like to achieve a unified approach to repurposing this memorial and ensuring that it is dedicated to black history, black voices, and black lives. I would like to ensure that view points can be communicated effectively and that we can process any crisis response appropriately	My ability to empathetically listen and reflect	Asheville is a bubble inside of a county that is segregated and racist. Asheville itself is segregated although it claims to be "progressive." My wife constantly asks me "why doesn't anyone look like me?" When we are conversating about the state of the area. There is a disparity in education, resources, and mental health services for black people as well as all POC in the Asheville area and even more so in the county. Driving 10 minutes outside of Asheville can feel unsafe for my wife, and we have been threatened endlessly in parts of WNC. The criminal justice system is massively biased towards POC, especially black people. We need more resources invested in the black community and we need more resources to help with POC mental health/addiction opposed to criminal justice.	I am a PLLC sole owner of an individual counseling practice in the Asheville area, working with many different people and walks of life
https://www.thecollegefix.com/1776-prominent-black-conservatives- counter-nyts-flawed-1619-project- with-message -of-unity/ I would like to involve Robert Woodson, a national leader in the African-American community to provide an inspirational alternative narrative that could unite the entire commmunity.	I would like to dispel white guilt and debunk white privledge. I would like to empower blacks to be in charge of their\ own destinies. Success will be acceptance by all of these words. "We hold these truths to be self- evident, that all men are created equal, that they are endowed by their Creator with certain unalienable Rights, that among these are Life, Liberty and the pursuit of Happiness."	The great majority of people in Buncombe are living one of the best environments in the world. They free to live and work anywhere in Buncombe. There are no racial inequities that cannot be addressed by each person pursing his own happiness.	I have no longer have business interests within the community.

If i am chosen to serve on the taskforce I would like to achieve harmony with the residents of Buncombe county. I would like to be able to help bring a consensus on the monument decision that is beneficial to everyone. I would also like to set the path going forward for the county and how we can help build a stronger community that is inclusive of everyone.	I think that my best contribution to the taskforce is my ability to listen without prejudice, to be able to think clearly and out of the box. Also to be able to have frank and honest conversations with the other members and with the community on the decisions made. I would be able to make clear decisions based on facts.	The racial inequalities in the county need to be addressed, there is no denying and I think that is what I can help bring to the taskforce, is a non- bias conversation. I have seen the inequalities in the county, I volunteered with WNCAP and helped feed families. I currently volunteer as a GAL with foster kids and see the inequalities daily in the courts and families.	i have no conflicts.
The removal of the Vance monument and a replaced piece of art the African American citizens of Asheville have made to show that Black Lives Matter.	I think my best contribution to the task force are that I am technologically advanced. I am able to do whatever needed on a computer. I am able to do my task very speedily and very efficiently. I am able to show compassion and understanding in what is right and being able to hear the voices of the citizens and relay what the people want to the people that need to hear it.	My understanding is that African American citizens in Asheville and Buncombe county are being treated unfairly and being taken granted of and used and hurt by the police of Asheville. I also understand that there is not a way for the African American citizen to go out without being harassed by the white supremacy and the Asheville police department and Buncombe county sheriffs office.	Not applicable.
I believe that my training and work as a psychologist results in sensitivity to some of the more important and more subtle issues·inherent in racism and the roles and influences of minorities. My graduate training was predominantly in the field of social learning theory which has major implications for the importance of role models as represented by a monument. Positive monuments are very important in the development of healthy self concepts.	I think it is likely that listening with care to what is expressed by the various individuals and responding with as much care as I am capable can be a best contribution.	I moved here after working for four years at Ithaca College, NY. Ithaca was remarkably free of racism and xenophobia. The principal of my daughter's primary school was an African American who was married to a Caucasian woman. In my four years there I never heard that menfioned a sjngle time even behjnd closed doors. It was not relevant. Additionally, and more importantly, half of my position was as the counselor/psychologist in the African American and Puerto Rican program of students largely from New York City. This position additionally involved receiving education and training regarding racial issues and sensitivity. something [needed. benefitted from. and welcomed. It opened my eyes to the subtleties of racial issues. I learned about about how common it is for individuals with substantial prejudices to have little insight into those prejudices and denial of it. It has been a long time since I had the experiences of the professional staff behind closed doors here in Asheville after the experiences and training in racial issues in Ithaca, but I assume that racial issues continue to take take the same form that they do	I have no conflicts of interest.
I would like to find the proper response to this issue that accurately reflects the feelings of the people who live here. I want to take the time to open dialogue with those locals and use their input to develop a plan of action.	I can work with anyone with an open mind. I have a life time of connections with the local people of the northern end of Buncombe County. I have a conviction of honor and respect that was honed by military service. This has served as my guide through everything life presents.	I watch the local news WLOS 13, this gives me the insight to the current issues in the local area. I also subscribe to the local news papers, Tribune Papers and The New-Record & Sentinel.	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.

I would like to be a participant in achieving peace and racial justice in Buncombe County with the removal of Confederate monuments in Buncombe County. I acknowledge that there are historic connections and consensual solutions are to be considered.	I think that I have an open heart and mind and the ability to be flexible plus a willingness to listen.	Recognizing that the disparities have been ongoing for way too many years and acknowledging that reconciliation is of paramount importance now, I am committed to actively participating a compassionate and deliberative process to ensure that healing and reconciliation are not just talked about but actuated.	None
A positive outcome to do what is best for all	Maturity, life experiences and views of a better outcomes in the near future	Monuments that present a negative feelings for some Americans past and present	NONE
I would like to contribute to a process that is focused not just on removing a negative symbol, but to arrive at a vision that is positive and uplifting, and one that honors and cherishes all of the cultural resources in our community. Asheville deserves nothing less. At the same time, there is a monument there and its removal or repurposing also has to be handled with great care. I would like to see a resolution that does not inflame or further exacerbate the problem.	I believe my perspective as a Native American, as somewhat of an unbiased person given that I don't have a lifelong history with this monument, and my extensive work in community will make me a positive addition to the Taskforce. So, I would say that my knowledge, skills, experience, heart, and multi-faceted perspective would be my greatest contribution to the Taskforce.	It is clear to me that Asheville and Buncombe County still have a very long way to go in terms of structural, institutional and interpersonal equity particularly for black and hispanic people in our community. Since I arrived in Asheville in 2013, I have observed and studied several issues of economic and other societal racial inequity involving matters of policing, education, healthcare, employment and housing. While these issues occasionally come to the surface through one event or another, it is clear to me that now is the time when the ball can be carried forward with real action and systemic change. Living in the Grove Arcade building, I have been very involved, or at minimum been present as an observer, for many of the protests that have occurred, including those with counter-protestors, and have witnessed first hand blatant racism and ignorance.	I have no known conflicts of interest as I have no financial interest in any property or business. I have no family relations in municipal government nor do I stand to gain in any way, other than as an ordinary citizen, from the actions of the Taskforce.

I would like to contribute to a process that is focused not just on removing a negative symbol, but to arrive at a vision that is positive and uplifting, and one that honors and cherishes all of the cultural resources in our community. Asheville deserves nothing less. At the same time, there is a monument there and its removal or repurposing also has to be handled with great care. I would like to see a resolution that does not inflame or further exacerbate the problem.	I believe my perspective as a Native American, as somewhat of an unbiased person given that I don't have a lifelong history with this monument, and my extensive work in community will make me a positive addition to the Taskforce. So, I would say that my knowledge, skills, experience, heart, and multi-faceted perspective would be my greatest contribution to the Taskforce.	It is clear to me that Asheville and Buncombe County still have a very long way to go in terms of structural, institutional and interpersonal equity particularly for black and hispanic people in our community. Since I arrived in Asheville in 2013, I have observed and studied several issues of economic and other societal racial inequity involving matters of policing, education, healthcare, employment and housing. While these issues occasionally come to the surface through one event or another, it is clear to me that now is the time when the ball can be carried forward with real action and systemic change. Living in the Grove Arcade buidling, I have been very involved, or at minimum been present as an observer, for many of the protests that have occurred, including those with counter-protestors, and have witnessed first hand blatant racism and ignorance.	I have no known conflicts of interest as I have no financial interest in any property or business. I have no family relations in municipal government nor do I stand to gain in any way, other than as an ordinary citizen, from the actions of the Taskforce.
I believe this is a great opportunity to bridge a vast divide and to help bring our community together. Additionally, I believe this is our time to celebrate people of color in our community that have long been forgotten.	In my opinion, I excel at listening and understanding. I'm a hardworker, dedicated and professional. It woudl be an honor to work with a group of people to make a meaningful contribution to our community.	1 think raciel inequities not only exist in our community, but in communities across the nation. You see it in many surrounding communities, such as in Madison County, which are predominantly white. I believe people of color or routinely discriminated against in our community. In my opinion, people who only surround themselves with people who look like and think like themselves, are denied the experiences and knowledge of people that have overcome hardships to excel and to contribute to their communities, regardless of skin color.	No conflicts of interest.
The removal and move to a historical setting as other monuments are being done around the county. So the historical monument is not destroyed.	Worked at Vance Birthplace. Also member of the LGMT community. Able to be neutral and from a planning background to work with a team to foresee potential obstacles.	Asheville needs to work to remove the labeling which is provided today. We are all one people and this should be the new Asheville focus. We welcome and support all.	None.
It's a chance to tell local residents and visitors about the impact African-Americans and other minorities have had and still don the Asheville area. I'd like to see our own Civil Rights Trail that would showcase the accomplishments and hurdles these groups have faced over the years. | hope I'm incorrect but | can't think of any acknowledgement of the Cherokee in Asheville, unless it's to say the Buncombe Turnpike was originally one of their trade routes. The Vance Birthplace has evolved over the 17 yearsI've lived here and doesn't gloss over the fact the family owned and sold slaves and that Zebulon thought them worthless as human beings. But, thousands more people pass through Pack Square every day than go to the Vance Birthplace in a year. Just think of the story we could tell and the effect it would have on so many more people.	I'm pretty even tempered and like to listen to all sides before | make a decision. | was the Community Representative (about 20 years ago) for the Murrieta Police Department when they interviewed potential candidates. I'm open to going with what I think will benefit people the most, even if it's not exactly what | want.	Only what | see on WLOS which is people of color are pulled over and arrested more often the whites. From what you see on the news, it often looks like the police over react which makesthe situation worse than it needed to be. | worked alongside people of color for over 35 years. I've had African-American roommates. | ushered at a Jazz Festival at Diana Wortham Theatre last year where the only white people were the ushers and | did not feel out of place. | taught high school for three years and most of my students were Hispanic. I'll be honest and say off the top of my head | can only think of two friends who are African-American, several who are Jewish and we live in an intergrated neighborhood.	None

I would like to be considered the token white guy with experience in advertising and media at a national scale who gets absolutely no public credit, no press mentions, no interviews, and no recognition in general. I would like to humbly present myself as a resource to be mined, not conceive of or push my own views. I would love more than anything to help represent the artists voices at the table when and where I can, due to my dual experience of being a board member at corporations and nonprofits; and a touring artist.	Being authentically bicultural as a resident of a farm house at the end of a gravel road in Buncombe County, with long experience living in downtown Asheville and owning a home there; and a regular resident of West LA and active participant in the technology and media industries there. That will be valuable because I can authentically “get it” locally to the extent that a white guy can, but I also know how it looks from the room where decisions are made.	Several members of the black community in Asheville could vouch that I was both helpful and annoying when I went to UNC-A and started a diversity and inclusion nonprofit. When I was younger, I was honored to sit with black elders and hear stories about how MLK hid in Swannanoa. When I graduated, my first job out of college was with the Children’s Defense Fund, where I learned about the history of Appalachia from the direct descenedents of the civl rights movement, including Marian Write Edelman herself on some occassions. All of that is to say: I don’t know much. I know the history. I know Lexington Ave. I know Eagle St. You could say I know just enough to know how little I know.	No.
I would like to help the Task Force reach an equitable and peaceful resolution as to the future of the Vance monument. I am a native of Haywood County whose roots go back to the Colonial times and I am aware of the loyalties which many Southerners have concerning the Confederacy and all of its monuments. However, I am also a Christian who believes that "Jesus loves the Little Children... " (I am sure you know the children's song.) My life has been guided by love and service to others, regardless of race, age, sex, or creed. If by participating on this Taskforce, I could help further the concept of brotherhood, I would feel that my goal would be achieved. I know it will be daunting and challenging to address long-held hatreds on both sides, but with listening and hearing all voices with genuine concern and understanding, this will be done. The time is right for a new direction in our country's populations. Appreciating diversity in culture, customs and traditions is one step in creating a better future for Buncombe County's citizens. It is simply done through EDUCATION....	I think I will bring a fresh perspective and will work with others on the Taskforce to arrive at an amenable solution which will allow the community to feel that an honorable and respectable decision has been made. By working cooperatively and espousing acceptance, equality, and non-violent protests, my goal is to help create a true peace without tension but with justice for all citizens. This is a time in our community to measure ourselves as we stand now at a time of challenge and controversy. We are mutually tied together in this fabric of creating our destiny; what affects one directly, affects all indirectly.	Inclusion engagement of many organizations working collaboratively would ensure that all races' voices would be heard and valued. I believe that several religious groups have reached out to each other for this purpose. But in spite of these laudable efforts, a gap between races remains. Such efforts evolve over time, but many have fallen by the way side. What is needed is a genuine heart-to-heart dialogue between leaders in our communities to address how "systemic racism" remains and how to eradicate it. Whites (non-Hispanics) make up 83.3% of the population of the county. Black or African Americans (non-Hispanics) comprise 6.21% and Hispanics make up 5.68% with Asians 1.02%. Why is it that Blacks are three times more likely that white drivers to be stopped in traffic stops and Blacks account for 33-40% of the charges of common crimes (possession of marijuana, and other non-violent crimes)? With five different police chiefs in nine years, the Asheville Police Department is lacking in genuine leadership and has developed low morale. My hope is that Asheville and Buncombe County will move forward at this	None.

I would like to find a place for the monument that both educates and enlightens our wonderful community. A place where people can come and gain new understandings and knowledge of America's tragic racial history. It hasn't been equal. We can make it more coordinate by honoring those who have been unjustly treated and telling their story through an illuminated approach to history. As Hanif Abdurraqib stated "A city cannot consistently transform itself at the expense of its most marginalized citizens and not expect those citizens to have a vast imagination about what a further transformation— whether of statues, a name, or leadership—could be." (New Yorker, June 24, 2020)	My best contribution would be researching and explaining the context of the monument, along with listening to hear the concerns of the public and my Task Force colleagues, proposing solutions, and seeking to create harmony in our decision making once a plan was decided upon. We can look for models from other cities to help us seek the best alternatives.	There are wide disparities between Asheville's black and white communities in education, economic status, housing, and policing. This is according to a report by the State of Black Asheville in 2019. At that point unemployment for black residents was twice as high as for their white counterparts. It obviously has become much worse due to the pandemic. Research has suggested that 40% of black owned businesses may not survive the pandemic. We all need to work on mitigating these facts and unequal patterns together. Part of changing the status quo is recognizing and breaking patterns that harm people in their pursuit of living a happy, fulfilling life.	No.
I want to see a change made without changing the skyline of Asheville. I don't want to be one of those people who complains about change with out attempting to be a part of the solution. I would like to see us make a change that all Ashevillians can embrace and be proud of. That isn't going to be easy.	My love of Asheville and her history. My understanding of the folks who are going to be hurt by the removal of Vance from Downtown. My understanding of the inequalities faced by the Black Community. Few applicants will see this from both sides as I do...	I grew up in a town that was 90% Black. I have seen racial inequalities all of my life. Im old and white, so I don't always see those inequalities, but I know they exsist and I know its time for change. I also know that there is a right way to go about it, but Im still trying to figure out what that is.	None
I believe I could serve as a resource. As a historian, I am well aware of the Vance family's history in the region as well as the history of western North Carolina politics and race relations. I would like to see the region's history carefully explored during this process. As a representative of a support board for the Vance Birthplace, I would like to see that site's interests represented. Lastly, I would like to see a full, open, and legal process conducted to assess the place of the monument in the city, county, and region's past and present. Then we can come to a resolution about how it can better present a truly inclusive vision of that history, the present, and the future.	I have confidence in my ability to contribute as an academic historian as well as a public historian. I have experience working as a seasonal for the National Park Service and I believe deeply that the public can handle compexity when it comes to our past. My best contribution will be to add historical context to the discussion about the Vance Monument as well as determining how to move forward representing Black contributions to Asheville and Buncombe County.	Obviously, the country as a whole is on edge and for good reason. Institutional and systemic racism are a legacy of enslavement, and they have been laid bare, again, by the recent murders of Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, George Floyd, and others. A substantial disconnect also seems to exist locally between communities of color and the Asheville Police Department. I believe we live in a transitional moment where substantial change is possible. Dealing with monuments, like the Vance Monument, is only one aspect of those larger discussions and changes necessary to address systemic discrimination.	I am a resident of Weaverville. Neither myself or my family have any property or business interests that would shape my judgment as a member of the taskforce.

Help make a wise decision that creates peace and unity for our community that will stand the test of time.	I am not an activist who has already decided how things should be changed. I am a devoted community member who works really hard to love and express compassion to folks who need help. I have offered my home, my career, my time, and my money to struggling folks and enjoy learning about cultural experiences that are not my own. I sincerely want to understand all points of view and help all factions feel heard and respected. I have not already made up mind about what should be done to the monument and therefore can be objective while seeking a hopeful and peaceful solution that makes sense fiscally.	I believe Asheville/Buncombe County does a pretty good job with efforts to end the inequities of race at an institutional level, but that is, in my opinion, the easy part. The deeper problems come from culture and deeply ingrained biases that are often hard to identify and counter, which is why I believe it is a positive move to remove/relocate civil war statues,etc. A cultural shift through community, church, and media efforts will be needed to improve poverty and housing issues; cultural bias and misperceptions; and criminal justice imbalances at the "street level."	none
To educate people and prove that these monuments do not represent racism and should not be destroyed or moved. Society has been brainwashed to think that these momuments werre erected to represent and honor slavery when the truth is completely opposite. If the monument has to be moved, then move to the Vance Birth Place Property.	THe historical knowledge that I have will task everyone to do their research to prove what I say to be truth and will convince others that destroying monuments erected decades ago does not/will not erase the hatered and prejiduce that generations of families instilled in thier children to perpertrate the hatered and racism that exists today	Society, especially uneducated young people have been misled to believe that these monuments represent hatred and racism when the truth is that they merely represent history. The stories of slavery and racism go back over 500 years but we were not taught this in school so most do not know the true history of slavery and that racism is rampant in the USA, not only the south, but ALL states.	none
Make sure Asheville retains it's History and Beauty.	The ability to negotiate and listen.	I have felt since graduating from Lee H. Edwards that our Community was fairly blended and had not seen this Split until the last few years. N/A	N/A
As a member of the task force, I want to discover and celebrate what our community believes is the best of who we are. I believe this is a monument that will operate as concrete language and a symbol of Asheville's philosophy of community. At a pivotal time of healing and as a statement of intent, the discussion around re-purposing or removing the Vance Monument is a cultural milestone in Asheville's history that needs to be treated with the historical reverence the moment deserves. I would like to accomplish the above through respectful dialogue with all community stakeholders.	My desires to participate on the taskforce comes with no preconceived notions or agendas. I truly wish to assist the civic procedures of manifesting the community's will in this project. Because of my employment, I possess the skill of empathetic listening and have thorough knowledge of the by-products that a lack of cultural equity can generate. I look forward to the opportunity to compile voices and opinions, some of whom have not been heard from before, through research and interviews (both of which I am comfortable conducting because of my educational background).	Throughout my twenty-seven years as a resident of western North Carolina, I have extensively researched and pursued knowledge of the development of the cultural community of the region. I have written research papers on the Asheville baseball team that competed in the Negro-leagues of the early 1900s. I have spent hours in the North Carolina Room and collections at Pack Library researching the history of the East End of the city and the racial diaspora that occurred as the urban crawl encroached. My participation on the Joseph Initiative's board of directors has also given me perspective on the educational and employment gaps that exist in our community. Asheville's racial inequities did not develop overnight, nor will they be eliminated as quickly.	I am aware of no conflicts of interest.

I am hoping the end result will be something that can help bring healing and unity, and be a positive landmark for Asheville as we move into the future, and a symbol and representation of the community we strive to be and can be.	I think my best contribution will be my ability to provide intellectual and respectful discourse, listening to and synthesizing the opinions of my fellow taskforce members as well as that of the community, treating all my duties with the gravity they deserve from a place of love.	I honestly wish I had a greater understanding than I presently do, and this is something I am trying to work on. I do know, in our area as in the rest of the country, racial profiling happens all the time. I have also seen through the COVID-19 pandemic the vast difference in access to healthcare between the races, resulting in a much larger impact on the African American community. Although I don't know the exact statistics, I know there is a vast disparity in income as well. From the eyes of a white man, I can't imagine how hurtful these monuments to Confederate soldiers and slave owners are to the African American community, but it is clear we have been deeply insensitive to their feelings for a long time. We have gotten things wrong for so long; this is the chance for a beginning to doing things right moving forward.	I am unaware of any conflict of interest.
First, to achieve community consensous on the future of the monument. To assess whether remomval is neessary -- or if repurposing/rebranding the monument is a suitable solution. Thorough investigation of potential personss or groups who might be considered as identifiable with the monument. To arrive at a solution that would prove a long-lasting and widely accepted decision.	I spent more than 30 years in the news business and understand the importane of good research. I know how to identify resources of research, I am a good listener and have a knack for drawing out stories and interests of people. I have a very good written and verbal communicator, have a strong background in marketing and rebranding and group organization.	In regaard to the Vance Monument, I understand that the monument is offensive to the African-American community due to the role Vance played during the Civil War era. In the community, I am aware that there is disparity between races and the African-American population has called for more support systems. In this community, and many, many others, there are actions, monuments and practices in place that do not consider the effect on people of color.	I do not have any conflicts of interest
We are unfortunately a tourist economy, if not for beer, people come here for the architecture. If we remove the cityscape, we are cutting off our feet. However, we can and must add our own signatures tot he cityscape. This addition to our cityscape should include a 21st century addition which the task force can envision to celebrate indigenous as well as black and latino contributions.	My best contribution to the task force is envisioning a future for the obelisk and creating a conversation with all stake holders, including the indigenous population as well as the black community while not forgetting that tourists come for historic architecture. And any past is fraught with problems.	Inequities exist. The lack of productive economic development (other than service jobs) contributes to economic inequality. Asheville is unrelentingly progressive. One cannot will problems out of existence.	None
I would like to ensure the monument is removed or re-purposed as expeditiously as possible, and we bring a better focus to the often ignored Black & African American community here in Asheville.	I think I would be able to offer much in the way of research, logistical planning, and outreach	I know that our Black & African American community here in Asheville is over-policed and under- represented. While the Black community makes up 13% of the population, they are dis proportionally stopped for vehicle infractions, and they are grossly under-represented in the business community and the community at large.	None

I believe we can bring balance through a conciliation and education of the local populace and offer alternatives to the myths and lies all sides are traumatized by.	I'm know to be a visionary. I can see the possibility of Asheville being a shining example of making a shared memory of our past.	Asheville like most of America has suffered from our legacy of white supremacy and systemic racism. The way to healing is to listen, learn and make the course corrections necessary to steer the ship of state and the power of the people.	no
Working towards a brighter future for Asheville.	I would be honored to be a part of the team, I am open to all good ideas, & come in completely open minded.	Institutional systemic racism reaches further than most of us realize.	none
I would like to contribute to the replacement of the Vance monument with something that affors people, residents, visitors, tourists, students, an opportunity to see a living document, a document that connects the past and the history of this region and Asheville with the current time.	Race relations are complicated. Growing up in Germany, I experienced and learned from attempts at reconiliation. Too often, here in the US, we hear "that's history", meaning it is utterly irrelevant for today. That is a big mistake, we live with our history and need to come to terms with it, as a city, as a state, and as a nation. Presenting just a historic marker, and some information, does not do the trick. People will walk away, swearing that they "will never buy a slave again." In other words, what are the messages we want to send, what do we want people to learn, and what can help them not only learn a bit about our history, but also see its contemporary influence? If appointed, I would contribute to the crafting of a site that does justice to the promise -it is not a reality yet - that this is the land of the free. I bring in comparative experiences and a fairly good knowledge of US history and society.	In Asheville and in BC, we have some homework to do. Education, Labor Market, Segregated housing markets, health care, all are areas where we can easily find racial inequities. Racism and discrimination are not only individually caused, they are systemically reproduced. Asheville is segregated, even after the post-Civil rights era. Teachers work hard to make improvements yet their work is more difficult because of the segregated housing and the ensuing inequities in school financing. To get over racial inequities and racism, we have to be more uncomfortable. Colorblindness is not helpful, and not true.	no
Restore the peaceful relationships with all folks in Asheville & B. County where we talk to & listen to each other & solve all problems without creating more!	Knowledge of how to get along with others without fighting!	What are they & how can they be solved!	None that I'm aware of -
I would like to see an outcome that is fair to everyone while still being honest about history so that my children may not repeat the wrongs of our past.	I don't let my feelings overcome facts. I try to stay level headed, ask tough questions, and rely on logic rather than emotion.	I understand that emotions are high right now. I think that some people profit from creating division while we citizens suffer as a whole from division. If we can unify together to move forward as one, we can create a future for our children that will prepare them to carry the mantle forward.	None that I am aware of.

I think that it is very important, while achieving consesus, and fullly digesting the matter at hand, to act expediantly. The removal of the Vance Monument has been discussed at least since the 1970s and I would look forward for this work to put it to rest.	My knowledge of Asheville history as well as a strong knowledge of the black communities history and the many ways that black city residents were undermined and undervalued especially during urban renewal, and school integration.	I understand the current racial inequalites and see them through the lense of history, as stated above. Of course I don't think I can ever fully understand racial inequality as a black person does. I do believe the black community should be in the driver's seat on the issue of removal of the Vance Monument. I assume the Taskforce would be made up of a majority of blacks--having said that, I feel that those in the black community who know me would support me being a part of the committee.	None
To find something that is reflective of this current moment in history while making this a reflection of our unique community at the same time, would be my main goal. I understand this is a huge decision, and will be met with resistance in many ways, but I think we will be able to democratically figure this out, and I would like to be a part of that process.	I have mentioned my outreach before, but I also believe I have an ability to be the Plato in many situations. I can see both sides of most matters, and I believe all voices need to be heard. I think I can help facilitate that.	My partner and I bought a house in 2016. We are both Caucasian, and we both worked in the service industry. I can't believe we pulled that off. We bought a house in the South Slope right next to public housing. It was apparent everyday how we were one of the people beginning to gentrify a neighborhood. We know we wouldn't have been able to do the same thing if we were not white. It's apparent that Asheville has a lot of work to do in many ways. I am still learning about ways in which people are not presented with the same opportunities all the time. If I can participate in any way, I will try.	n/a
I would like to help the group understand the implications of various ideas as it gathers information in order to make the best recommendations. I'm a good researcher as well, so I expect I would be doing research to ensure that the group proceeds with all the necessary facts to make its recommendations.	Understanding the rhetorical implications of the recommendations and communicating that to the group and the city/county counsels. I have also served on and led a variety of committees in my career, so I have experience with committee structures and operations, Roberts Rules, etc.	My understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County is that, as in most parts of the country, it has to do with systemic racism that bleeds into all areas such as housing (I've seen the old red- lining maps), gentrification, education, law enforcement, employment, and healthcare. I'm happy to see the revitalization of the area around the YMI as an effort to honor the history of that area as an African American business/cultural hub.	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.
I would like to achieve a diverse safe space for this taskforce to encourage a creative & objective conversation and to hear the voices of residents of Asheville/Buncombe County.	I believe that my best contribution to the taskforce would be being able to view opinions, thoughts and ideas objectively. I would be able to help foster an environment that allows all voices to be heard. Establishing a method to vote	My understanding of the current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County are many people of color do not have the same opportunities within their collective spaces as their non people of color counterparts. As an African American professional I have spoken with several individuals that have shared their experiences of inconsistencies within fair housing, job opportunities, inequitable treatment on the job, inequitable healthcare experiences and maltreatment of students of color in local city and county schools. Not being an employee of the major employers of this county allows me to view this from a place of observation.	I am not aware of any potential individual or business conflicts that could arise during service if appointed to the taskforce.

I would like to establish a consensus on a real, meaningful use for this space for generations to come through meaningful collective dialogue. It is my hope that this initiative not only comes up with a viable alternative to the Vance Monument's presence, but a well- considered best solution that will truly better the community of Asheville as a whole and which takes into account the needs and desires of Black Ashevillians. The conversation between art in the public sphere and the culture surrounding is ongoing, constantly informing one another. As my work and research has taught me, the context and means by which history is presented is essential to consider - a museum can educate and inspire, a history book can offer factual information, but a monument has a specific role in upholding and honoring the values and beliefs of a community. Memorials do not teach history so much as celebrate versions of it. Monuments are markers in the physical environment that express the values of a community. They are blueprints for public life, expressing the dominant narrative of the cities they inhabit, tethering potential futures to the	My firsthand experience in historical and cultural institutions allows me to understand the actual implications of the presence of memorials such as the Vance Monument and the impact reimagining that site will have on the city, especially on Black citizens. My educational background is marked by extensive research on cultural sites and symbols and their role in society, bolstering my understanding of what is at stake here; as well as research into social and political phenomena and societal change. These also mean I have a lot to offer in terms of research capabilities required by this appointment. I understand that the current climate makes the urgent removal of this monument even more critical for broader systemic transformation and healing. My relevant education and work/life experience give me unique insight into the need for removal of confederate monuments such as this one. These experiences have also bolstered my perspective that these changes toward racial equity and reconciliation must still be made collectively to take hold in society, as my education has also involved extensive study and practice of mediation and dialogue as a political	Asheville is a diverse city with a mix of cultures, yet considerable segregation amongst communities persists. There is an imbalance in the type of care Black residents have access to, and differences in the spaces they are welcomed into. Disparities are perpetuated by the hold of confederate memory on the region, embedded in place names and monuments and upheld in certain societal structures. At the institutional level, for example, there have been accounts of racially motivated violence from police officers in recent years and marked discrimination from the police force in recent months seen in APD's violent response towards peaceful protesters. The city needs continuous efforts towards structural change to encourage not only diversity of the population, which exists, but equity among marginalized populations, especially Black people and POC. One area in which productive changes can be implemented is through the re- evaluation of public space and its use, considering the message monuments send to residents, and specifically by restructuring sites previously used to glorify white	No conflicts of interest.
I would like the voices of our community to be heard in a real and tangible way, and being an active member of our community both downtown and throughout Asheville's "suburbs," I know that the result of this ruling will have a major impact on how our community sees our local government. I know that we would all like to see major change here, which to many of us, looks like the removal of the monument.	I would say my best contribution would be my communication skills and my passion. As I expressed in a previous answer, I have a great passion for truth-seeking. I will be well-prepared, with facts, figures, and examples, should it be needed. I am a strong communicator, able to speak the truth no matter the circumstances. I am also a very passionate individual, and care a great deal for the city itself as well as its citizens.	During my study at the University of North Carolina at Asheville, the capstone course for the honors program was all about race relations in Asheville, NC. We discussed the ways that re-zoning greatly impacted the Black community here in Asheville, and we discussed what those ramifications are even today. I took this course in 2013, and we were discussing the monument even back then, and whether or not we thought it was representative of who we wanted to be as a city. We volunteered with the "I Have A Dream" Foundation, which was basically an after school program in one of the primarily Black communities in Asheville. We helped the students with their homework, got them to read aloud to us, and there was also a segment where the kids could take home fresh produce and learn a recipe. This was a very eye- opening experience for me at 20 and 21 years old, and I am thankful for it every day. It is said that Asheville is a "very white" city, but the truth is, it was made to look this way. POC are a crucial part of our community in this city, and it is truly time for us to step up and make a home for ALL in the downtown center – especially since	I am not aware of any conflict of interest.

I would like to see a consensus reached among all of the stakeholders that whatever the Taskforce recommends is the choice of the community, and that all voices are heard, considered and balanced. I believe we will need to listen to all who wish to share their opinion on what should happen at the Vance Monument site and work together to craft a solution that will empower and energize the community going forward.	Aside from my qualifications and experiences above, I believe that I can help seemingly disparate voices come together in harmony and find common ground. As a lawyer, I'm often called upon to help resolve disputes. I've learned over my nearly 30 years of practice how to mediate between parties with opposing goals and priorities to reach amiable solutions to disagreements, without having to ask a judge or a jury to settle the dispute. I believe I will be able to speak authentically to the various stakeholders in this process, and I hope to be able to strike the appropriate balance between all interests for the good of the community as a whole.	Asheville has a long and sordid history of segregation, redlining, gentrification, discrimination against and forced relocation of African- Americans. This has contributed to Asheville and Buncombe County having the highest achievement gap in the state between white and African-American students in the public school system. My wife and I have put three children through the Asheville City Schools system. I have volunteered extensively in the school system and have witnessed the disparities in how children of color are taught, coached and disciplined. I work in the area of criminal defense, and I know how Black people are disproportionately charged for minor drug offenses, and how their neighborhoods are often over- policed. As a graduate of the APD Citizens Police Academy, I know of the difficulties faced by local law enforcement gaining trust within communities of color, as well as the challenges in recruiting and retaining officers of color in a community with such a dearth of African-American cultural opportunities due to a hollowing out of the Black middle class in Asheville.	None of which I am aware.
Help, aide and assist with developing peace, joy and harmony in the Asheville community with a spirit of diversity, friendship and cooperations with positive growth for all, especially the native Asheville citizens.	Organizational, administrative development in planning, communications and training future city development.	It is real, historic and rarely discussed for future city development.	No!

I would like a resolution that unequivocally acknowledges the overwhelming hurt that the African-American community feels about racism, and does not paper over anything in our history. It should also not deny history, acknowledging that the memorial to Zebulon Vance was not a monument to the Confederacy, erected to strengthen racism at a time when we knew better, but rather a memorial begun at the moment of his death, to remember a man who had been greatly loved and accomplished much for WNC and Asheville in his lifetime. Much more like the Jefferson Memorial than a statue of Robt. E. Lee on a horse. Dr. Darin Waters in 2017 said as much. Vance was complex, had good and bad, and mostly, lived in a different time. The memorial should be augmented, to show what else was going on, but not removed. Throughout his lifetime, and including at the time of his death, he was greatly loved by all classes, both sexes and both whites and Blacks in NC. They didn't love him because he was a Confederate governor, but because as governor, he managed to keep folks clothed and fed. A friend with long roots here said, "Why	I can deliver a vast knowledge of NC and Asheville history. I have a great respect for those demonstrating for racial justice, which is long overdue. I think the issue of the memorial's future could deeply divide us, and I believe there is a way we can proceed that would avoid that division. I also understand the legal nuances of our deliberations. I was honored to be a friend of Johnny Baxter, whose enslaved ancestors were among the very first settlers in Chunn's Cove. A great history lover and fellow founder of the Preservation Society, a frequent visitor to the North Carolina Room, his knowledge of Black history was great. At his urging, I prepared the National Register Nomination for the Young Men's Institute. Through the Preservation Society, I worked to help restore the sanctuary at Hopkins Chapel, to help with the upkeep at the South Asheville Cemetery, and have attended educational events at the Cemetery and at the Rosenwald School in Mars Hill. I have had the pleasure of a guided tour of the Stephens Lee Gym and the Hoodhuggers Tour, and St. Matthias. I've attended	One of the reasons I was so attracted to Asheville when I first came in 1972 was its lack of strictly segregated residential housing. I lived for a time in Kenilworth, which seemed to me to be a seamlessly integrated community. I have long since come to see the reality of the situation. I witnessed firsthand the demolition and disappearance of Valley Street, where I used to treasure hearing the cock's crow as I hiked up the hill from my parking space below City Hall to the old Pack Library. As an attorney, I've had black clients and have seen the vastly different realities they face in acquiring property. I've done extensive reading on disparities in policing, and worked to reform cash bail and other aspects of our criminal justice system which contribute to racial inequities. My son was educated at Asheville City Schools, and he has shared with me some of the inequities which persist despite good intentions in the city school system.	None
Whether the monument is repurposed or razed and reconstructed in a new form, I feel the end result should celebrate/commemorate the diversity of Asheville. There have been notable African Americans throughout our past who have enlivened and enriched our community. It is my opinion that, if done well, the monument can become a symbol of beauty and collaboration that could provide equity and healing to our city.	I am a creative, big picture thinker. This allows me to listen, absorb broad information, ideate possibilities, and collaborate with others to lay the foundation, establish the direction, so to speak. I would bring this among other admirable qualities to the taskforce if given the opportunity.	This is complicated to answer. We have a disconnected community. Generational social attitudes are a part of this. Redlining and urban renewal are a part of this. Institutional racism in education, government, and health care are a part of this. Policing and mass incarceration are a part of this. Lack of affordable housing is a part of this. The problems we see on the national news are not unlike our problems here, but perhaps at different scales. To be informed on these issues I have spent time in the past half dozen-plus years with books, articles, videos, and attended lectures, seminars, and workshops. Having awareness is so crucial to understanding our neighbors. Also as a part of this, I am part of a planning committee for the Asheville High Class of 1979 that is fostering conversations around racism. The Class of '79 is the first one that did not experience a race riot during the late 70's. As a result, we have a special bond with one another. It has been incredible to hear the stories of our black classmate's experiences with racism both past and present. The process of listening and sharing together has solidified the foundation	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.

Being a contributor to a what I will call a Legacy Project (i do not mean to have my name on it) I mean being part of something that will endure & be of Value & ideally be inspirational to future generations.	Imagination Ability to priblem solve Ability to get along w/ others	Education- the disparity in test scores & other metrics we are not meeting the needs of education Cost of Housing Gentrification has made home ownership out of reach Wages Issues w/ Police- mis-trust & mis- treatment Bail Bonds issue, clogging prisons	None I aware of
I don't have a specific goal for this opportunity outside of serving the community. I would value the opportunity to listen, research, synthesize, and communicate the taskforces' findings.	An open mind, a willingness to listen before forming opinions and speaking, and a sincere desire to support and celebrate people of color.	While I have sought to educate myself about the history and current state of racial inequalities in Buncombe County and the country I still have much to learn which I am currently striving to do.	None
I would like the task force to recommend changes to the monument that are actually implemented and are accepted by the community as good and valuable	I think I will be able to help the task force maintain focus and move toward a solution.	I have only a superficial knowledge of the current inequities. My first task will be to correct that deficiency.	None.

Honesty in the process. We need a full accounting of this place and what it means to our City and community in order to arrive at a solution that can build bridges and heal wounds in a meaningful way. We shouldn't fool ourselves that everyone will be "happy" with the final product so if we can be honest and transparent about our intent and information gathering we can chart a course for success with this project.	An ability to take disparate information and formulate this content into action items for consideration and decision making. Also an ability to help coordinate a team for shared success and to honor Asheville in the process.	We have many structural and cultural challenges to race equity in WNC. Our history of redlining and other exclusionary activities, of which there are plenty in Asheville and the US in general, have not served minority communities who still live with impacts of built in disadvantages. The "high level" structural and policy decisions of the past served to create a society structured around white supremacy and thus served to further perpetuate and create the cultural perceptions many of us live with today. Race has traditionally been used as a convenient tool for economic repression of minority communities and those economic impacts then perpetuate the structural mechanisms. Asheville may market itself as an open, liberal and inclusive town, however there still exists a disparity between how we market and how we practice that anyone who lives here can feel.	No to my knowledge.
I would like to help the voices and thoughts of the group come together to serve our community and create a new vision, whether it's a new piece, a rededication, or other course of action, that suits Asheville best.	I am peaceful, heartfelt, and empathic. I try to be as reasonable as possible. I work to help others hear each other.	I have always been quite surprised by the defacto segregation created by the economic disparity between the affluent mostly white communities, and the communities comprised of people living in more affordable housing.	I work as the host of a local morning radio show. This could create a potential problem.
Supporting an appropriate educational marker that highlights African American History while in the context of the real white supremacist pieces of our history that should not be erased but rather known and learned from. Create a balanced view on our fraught history with an aim for inspiration to empower all races to understand Marcus Garvey's statement, "A people without knowledge of their past is like a tree without roots."	Deep listening and then sharing my unique perspective with an aim to build Group Wisdom toward our responsibility and opportunity to do this very well so that Asheville can be on the cutting edge of documenting racism while rooting equal rights and justice.	This question needs to be looked at from a wider lense because it is not random that Asheville and Buncombe County have racial inequities. Racial inequalities exist across the nation because this country was built by enslaved Africans and techniques of control have been imported throughout the centuries to educate that "white is right" and "black get back". Current racial inequity exists in education, health care, housing and access to healthy food across Asheville for people of Color.	No

1) A reasonably justifiable remedy for this monument that could help lay a foundation for making other such decisions. This outcome needs to reflect the contributions, if any, by Vance and well as the removal of monuments to white supremacy that have no bearing on Asheville or civic life today. Pack Square needs to reflect more of the diversity that is our community.	Threading this needle will require open minds and creative solutions if we are attempting to build broad concensus around any proposal, My background in architecture and interest in racial equity is a driver for me to help find a better historical narrative and a solution beyond wholesale removal and destruction of all Civil War monuments.	Like most areas of this country, especially in the South, people of color have been under represented in almost all areas. History has focused on the white stories, opportunities to build a better life were systematically denied to African-Americans, for example through voting restrictions or redlining practices in housing/ lending. Generations have lived with this reality as new displays of racism and discrimination are being given permission from the White House with calls for stamping out voices of dissent. This goes well beyond racial profiling and driving while black. Asheville tries very hard to be a progressive city and deserves credit for acknowledging this issue in a meaningful way.	Born in Aiken, SC, winter in Florida, but technically a seasonal (approx 5 months/ year) resident in Asheville. I have owned my residence here for 11 years.
If appointed to the task force, I obviously would have the hope to remove the Vance Monument along with other Confederate monuments in Asheville and Buncombe County. But I also have the hopes to speak more with individuals who have some power in the hopes to create everlasting changes, instead of just the smokescreens that officials are facilitating by creating these task forces as well as the empty and superficial promises and actions (such as removing monuments and painting murals).	I love interacting and speaking to community members of all walks of life including different age and race demographics. And as an individual that can remain impartial in times of debate, I think I can provide a mediator role to those in the task force that are colliding.	As a lover of all things journalistic, including politics and history; I have always pushed my self to read more about things that are not presented to me, one of those topics being the racial inequalities embedded here in Asheville and Buncombe County. My background in humanities has enlightened me of the history and systemic/systematic issues in the United States that have been promoted and perpetuated by colonialism and white patriarchy.	As I said earlier, as a journalist I always strive to be impartial and have valued my ability to see all sides of an argument.
My goal would be to remove existing monument and replace it with one chosen and created by the Black people of this county.	I understand how to think scientifically, research and cite my sources.	Currently I understand that Black people are afraid of the police. That Black people are disproportionately arrested and convicted. That it is more difficult for Black people to get loans. That Black people are paid less than White people.	None.
A peaceful resolution	Patience and ability to listen	It's more than obvious with the separation of neighborhoods, disparities in schools and violent crime in public housing. All a continuation of past inequities that need to change.	None

A fair, just, meaningful removal or repurposing of the monument that will be satisfactory to our entire community, and to the sensibilities and social purposes of our city and county.	The ability to listen carefully to various interests and to work well with others, on and off the task force. The ability to craft surveys and gather information, as was an integral part of my land use practice. A sense of fairness and due process of law. The ability to craft valuable, creative solutions which comply with applicable law.	I have a strong sense that racial inequalities are pervasive and deeply harmful, but do not have tha much specific knowledge.	None.
As stated above, this issue must no longer be ignored. History has brought us here. The future thinking needed must lead the way forward.	Legal analytic thinking background	The data supports the clear conclusion that there is a difference in the impact on the African American race, whether it pertains to economic disparity, police/law enforcement, health care, Covid 19 to name a few.	I perceive none, and pledge that I have absolutely no conflicts of interest.
I would like to be a conduit for the community. I would open myself to hearing a variety of voices and report back. I cannot pretend to know the answer to what to do with the monument, but I do know I am connected to the community and am a good listener. I would make time to truly listen to the Black community and do the work that is needed for this to be a successful task force.	My ability to connect and listen as well as my background in art.	I believe Asheville is largely segregated, and this is the result of years of inequity in housing, jobs, etc. In general, it seems that our Black community is shrinking, and that to me is a terrible omen for the future of a town that hails itself as the Progressive South.	None that I am aware
I hope that the Task Force will be able to assist the community in moving forward in a peaceful and constructive way. I think reaching consensus in a transparent manner should be a primary goal of the Task Force.	I have the ability to consolidate large quantities of varied and complex information, and also an ability to build consensus in different group settings.	Based upon my experience with the Asheville City School Board I am well aware of the longstanding disparity in educational results when applied to African American students. On the criminal side, I am well aware and have heard of many incidents of people being stopped “driving while black”. In addition, the inequitable arrest statistics of African Americans as compared to non-African Americans continues to be troubling.	None

Justice, Remembrance & Equality	The objective opinion of a white man who recognizes the injustice that exists everyday this monument stays standing.	I live in one of the poorest areas of town and despite the high population density and the numerous housing units, it remains one of the only food deserts in all of Asheville. BIPOC don't have a full size grocery store closer then 3 miles away. The closest place for them to shop is a gas station that specializes in soda and blunt wraps. Yet somehow we expect these individuals to be able to live a healthy lifestyle and if they don't they are punished for it by refusing the proper medical care or insurance coverage they need.	I am not aware of any.
Prioritize the input of African Americans in Asheville Learn from the process of how other communities went about the removal of their monuments to build a better process in Asheville Work with other task force members on a process for how meetings will be conducted, historical documents researched, public comment included, and a means of communication. Work for the removal of the Vance Monument as it is a testament to white male supremacy.	Throughout the 45 years of living in Asheville, I have intentionally built relationships in many different communities and been engaged in multiple issues that required a process to reach a better outcome. Almost always that revolved around diversity, equity, and inclusion. That will be an important consideration especially given the 3 month time frame for the decision to be made. It will be messy as there are constituencies in and out of Asheville that will also want to exercise power and authority over the task force and the final decision. Working to anticipate some of the challenges needs to be an initial consideration of the committee. Other Contributions: 1. Drawing on historical records and scholars 2. Determining a process of decision making 3. Community relationships	I am influenced by such writers as Ibram Kendi, Michelle Alexander, Reesma Menakem, Van Jones, and Robin D'Angelo, Systemic institutionalized racism is operational all across Asheville and at every level. It is based on white skin dominance. White women play a key role in holding white male supremacy in place. All of that is made clear with the State of Black Asheville statistics that were collected by the UNC Asheville students of Dr.Dwight Mullen for the last 15 years along with the recent interactions with law enforcement. It is operationalized in schools, houses of worship, commerce, non-profits, public offices, and more.To move beyond the status quo of oppression and dominance will take policy changes on a government level and employment changes in local commerce among many other steps along with a sea change of hearts and minds. The Urgency of Now is about transformational power dynamics across all relationships. The intergenerational leaders that organized the protests following the murders, shared their stories of	None
I would like to see history portrayed truthfully. I would like to use my voice to uplift POC voices. I want to help ensure that our Black and Browm community members are able to feel represented honestly. and fairly, in their own community. We have a duty to ensure justice and equality are given to those who have gone so long without it.	I have excellent organization skills, and I excel at bringing people together. I have the best interests of the POC community at heart, and will actively listen to their goals and needs.	In the 14 years I have lived in Asheville, I have noted that we have an extremely quiet -yet very deeply rooted- culture of white supremacy. We feel often that we are saying and doing the right things, and dont take the feelings of those we are wronging into consideration. I feel that there is a lot of difficulty with that, because many people can't even see this bias within themselves. I am proud of those in the community who have spoken out, and said they refuse to live with this type pf culture anymore. I am glad the city is finally beginning to take it's citizens wishes into consideration.	I have no conflicts of interest in relation to this matter.
I would like to see the Vance Monument transformed into a monument to what can be accomplished by putting away power and prejudice and working for equity and equanimity. Both African American and other leaders who have worked for this over the years could be honored, as well as having a reflective mention of the slave market that used to function near that spot.	I do well working on committees. I would be an enthusiastic participant and am willing to work hard for an equitable plan. I speak up when I support or do not support an idea. I also have a heart for the issues brought up by BLM and the books I have been reading.	It seems that the issues for people of color (POC) in our area are very similar to national and worldwide issues. Affordable housing is an issue for everyone, but especially hits POC. There also seems to be a wide range in scholastic achievement between caucasians and POC. We have a mixture of opinions and beliefs in our area about racism that many times is like oil and water. We need to have leadership that focuses on changing hearts and minds as well as the symbols of racism.	None

Ultimately achieving a better understanding of what these monuments mean to our community and how they negatively affect our city. Asheville is known as this mecca for art, music, and understanding. Through the removal of the monuments, we can really adopt those values. We have the opportunities to be leaders in our state for this movement that is prevalent throughout he nation, specifically in the south. My goal, if the decision were mine alone, would be to remove and repurpose them to tell the fill story without alienating different demographics in our population. Hopefully within the Taskforce we could help those who do not understand the negativity surrounding these monuments gain at least a shred of understanding of their affect on our city	My background and education. Being in the arts, I have an understanding of the importance and relevancy of symbolism. The education factor allows me to think critically and in a format that seeks to understand long-term effects of current thoughts and processes. Personally, I'm known to be empathetic, thoughtful, and I generally try to understand alternative views.	They are a bit astounding. The racial disparity gaps in education between black and white students is huge! I think that sometimes, through creative marketing and branding, Asheville presents itself as a diverse city that is open and understanding, but this is now always the case. I believe around 20% of the population are BIPOC, and that is a large part of our population that is severely underrepresented socially, politically, and economically. We have historic districts like the BLOCK that receive little community support yet they are full of history. DeWayne Barton runs Hoodhuggers that keeps a list of Black owned businesses, but I can count on my hand how many people have ever even heard of his organization. It's important to start bridging these gaps, and a good start is with these monuments.	No conflicts!
There is a need for more diversity in the public art collection. That diversity is not only diversity in the type of art that is represented and who it celebrates, but actually in the diversity of the artists who create this public art. There are people of color, specifically African-Americans, that played a vital role in the establishment of Asheville. For the longest time the contributions and the lived experiences of those people have been omitted from the dominant narrative. Asheville has deep roots within the African-American community. It is important to preserve that culture and remind us of the roots of this town. Public art is important. It is open to everyone. Visitors from other states and cities as well as local people can learn of the different historical things that have happened in Asheville. Involving both adults and students should be a priority. It should represent the community. It should be a community-informed	Life lessons which have formed some of my core principles. 1. We are a team - It takes a village. - Step outside yourself. - Assume positive intentions. 2. Swing for the fences - Think big, start small, move fast. - Be courageous. - Focus on today, build for tomorrow 3. Value communication - Be proactive. - Ask questions, get the details. - Collaborate candidly.	Layers of systemic racism exist throughout our society. Recent protests are not just about police violence, they are about the statistics Asheville's African-American community has been living with, day in and day out. We find systemic racism and inequity in policy areas including housing, health, education and employment. If we really intend on investing in Asheville, maybe we should begin addressing local efforts to alleviate poverty.	None.

First of all, I think it is important to realize that it will be impossible to please all people and all constituents in this endeavor. Herbert Swope, a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist once said, "I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure — which is to try to please everybody." The Taskforce must be mindful of this. I would like to achieve three things: (1) the closest thing to a consensus that is possible on a twelve-person taskforce, (2) a well drafted, publicly issued recommendation (or position statement) for the City Council and County Commission that explains how the taskforce came to its recommendation, why the taskforce believes its recommendation is best for the future of the City and the County - with a thorough and respectful recognition of all points of view - with a respectful explanation of why certain points of view could not be or were not accommodated, and (3) a recommendation that will allow the ultimate decision makers to reach a decision that will have a lasting, inclusive, meaningful and instructive impact on Asheville and Buncombe County - their residents	I'm not sure I can limit my possible contributions to just one. How about four: 1. I'm a level headed, no drama, compassionate bridgebuilder. 2. I can speak as a multi- generational native of Asheville. 3. I intend to live out my days in Asheville and have its best and future interests at heart. 4. I'm an excellent communicator and writer.	I do not have a good understanding of these inequities or how they differ from racial inequities across America. However, I do have a good understanding of white privilege. I do understand how African Americans feel that they have to show up to work perfect everyday because our stereotypes have us waiting for their inevitable failure. I do understand how African Americans have to work three times as hard to get a mortgage than their white colleagues. I do understand how African Americans are tired of being followed by department store security personnel simply because they are black. I am beginning to understand how policing and police training have created an adversarial relationship between African American communities and municipal police forces. Yet, I admit that I do not know about the unique challenges of African Americans in Asheville or Buncombe County.	I do not have a legal conflict of interest. Here is my conflict of interest: I am no longer a resident of Asheville/Buncombe County. As I have said before, I am a multi- generational native of Asheville. My parents live in North Asheville in the house I grew up in. My son lives in downtown Asheville with his mother. He just graduated from Asheville School and will be entering UNC- Chapel Hill as a freshman in August. His mother and I divorced in 2018. Prior to that, we split our time between Kingsport, Tennessee (where I work) and downtown Asheville. We owned a condominium in the Kress Building. When we divorced, I got the home in Tennesssee and my ex-wife got the home in the Kress
Peace for my city.	My ability to listen without reacting. My knowledge of history and politics. My skill at finding innovative solutions to problems in order to achieve compromise.	Racial prejudice runs deep in all places in the South. It is not only built into our government and other systems, but it's also in the hearts of many people. Though a minority in population, our black citizens, (and Hispanic, too) have rarely had a voice at the table. Or if they had a voice, it was never really listened to. There have been numerous boards, commissions, and other groups trying to bring real change to the system, but they never seem to get anywhere, largely because the white natives that hold almost all the leadership positions have never made solving the problem a priority, granting only token solutions to "keep the peace" instead of making major changes. There is a lot of hurt out there in the African-American community. The recent crisis of police brutality is only the tip of the iceberg. As a people, they have never really healed, or been compensated for, the suffering caused by slavery, reconstruction, segregation, and Jim Crow laws. A problem specific to Asheville is that the African-American community here is fragmented into many different cliques, and they have not been able to agree on specific	One of my NC ancestors owned slaves, although he freed them long before the Civil War. I had ancestors who were killed fighting in the Civil War. My grandmother was a member of the UDC.

I would like to make sure this issue is handled in a way we will be proud of as a community. I would like to see that all of our communities here have an input and a say in the way in which this is handled. I hope to do more listening than talking. I hope to bring the perspective of a young person's investment, as I expect this monument to stand for the rest of my life. Monuments outlive us, and they tell the people who stand at the feet of them what is worth remembering. We must consider who we think is worth honoring with our memory, and what they stood for in life. I hope that whomever this task force and the City decides the monument may be repurposed to honor, we will take this as a community commitment to our Black community, whom has been a crucial part of Asheville's history, and without whom we are not a whole community. Every Black child in Asheville should be able to look at this monument and see a part of themselves. This monument has the power to inspire and motivate our community to keep working on creating a more just, equitable, and equal community for all of our citizens.	As I've been involved in organizations like the United Nations Association of WNC and the Sierra Club, I've realized how often these spaces can be under-represented by young people. I hope that my perspective as a young person can be both useful and thoughtful. As a young people, we see that most of our lives are ahead of us, so we have so much at stake in these decisions. I hope that I can use myself as a way to gather input from people my age, so that this is truly seen as something that will be permanent. The Vance Monument has stood for over 100 years. I expect it to stand in it's reformed way for many years longer than that. Not just me, but my children and grandchildren and onwards will see this monument. We must take the weight of it's enduring legacy into account as we decide how it will change. I am also a very positive and upbeat person. I hope that I can bring a sense of hopefulness to this Taskforce. This is a reason for us to celebrate the importance of people of color in our community. This is not something that we can come at with	As a 2019 graduate from the Asheville City School system, I've long observed the achievement gap between black and white students. It's crucial that we grapple with this problem in both our city and county school systems. I saw firsthand how black students and white students have a huge disparity between them. If children in their education starting in elementary school are disadvantaged from the start, how can we expect them to be prepared to go further in life? It is something our school system must review and create now policies to address. Policing reform is also something I understand to be important. We made national news for an unarmed black man who was tasered by the Police for J-Walking. This is an issue that may cost someone in our community their life. We must step in and revise policies before it's taken away someone's life. In the midst of the Pandemic, the Latino population of Asheville and Buncombe County is being disproportionally affected by COVID- 19. The lack of translated health information may be making the issue	I am a student and have no affiliations with any businesses or properties.
Quick resolution. A monument repurposed with a focus on female and male african americans from the county. A monument that aesthetically fits in the location it sits.	Empathy. Quick start. Results driven.	I understand we have a problem. I understand that we are a community that promotes culture and diversity yet we are the least diverse "city" in North Carolina. I know we can change that and it is going to have to start at the top.	I am a commercial broker with Dewey Property Advisors. My focus is downtown. I do not see this being a conflict of interest. I DO see it being a benefit to this taskforce.
I think the success of this work is tied to advancing understanding of the impact that structural/systemic racism and poverty has on all members of our community while centering the work on the experience of African Americans. I would like to see the work of the Taskforce explicitly address developing communication about the WHY that speaks to a wide range of interests and intentionally engages communities that are ambivalent and/or threatened by removal of the monument; a long term commitment and plan for educating and advancing the work of dismantling structural and systemic racism and poverty in our community - this is just an initial step and should not be done without a plan for accountability to the bigger work that needs to be done; and intentionally addressing the potential for this work to escalate violence against Black, Indigenous, and People of Color. I am also committed to lifting up and being guided by the voice(s) and leadership of Black Asheville.	My passion and commitment to this work AND my skills in listening and identifying both/and solutions in the midst of conflict and complexity. I don't expect this work to be easy or comfortable. My commitment to this being a healing experience for Black, Indigenous, and People of Color in our community AND educational and potentially healing for White people grounds me in my discernment about whether to apply for the Task Force. I am very used to "messy" work and as a White woman am very aware of the discomfort that comes with dismantling White Supremacy in myself and our society. I can be a voice for how important it is for White people to be engaged in this work and intentionally dismantle the systems that are destroying our country. It is structural and systemic racism and poverty (the two are inextricably intertwined) that has led to 47% of the people living in the US experiencing poverty or low-wealth. In raw numbers, more White people are living in poverty AND yet continue to elect officials who perpetuate policies and practices that create the situations they are living in	I believe I have peppered my responses above with information that speaks to this question. I will add here that the Buncombe County CHIP Leadership and Advisory Council has been integral in the process of BC Health and Human Services Board passing the resolution declaring structural and systemic racism a public health crisis. I have been actively involved in the process of lifting up health inequities and the social determinants of health that drive unacceptable outcomes in our community for several years. As mentioned above, historical and current policies and practices that are rooted in systemic racism are key to the long list of inequities black and brown people in our community are experiencing: life expectancy; infant mortality; diabetes mortality; lung cancer prevalence and mortality; academic achievement; economic opportunity - unemployment, average wage; and access to health care, including behavioral health. The list is long. I do want to lift up one measure that	I am not aware of any specific conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during my service on the taskforce.

I would like to see the issue resolved.	Perhaps my life experiences as a member of the working class. My experience with the costs of demolition and construction. I have worked as a project manager in several large construction projects and understand what goes into successful completion. I believe the "best contribution" could be my enthusiasm for diversity. I have always tried to further equality and diversity in all my team building roles over the years. I know that what has occurred historically is wrong and here we are afforded an opportunity to make at least one correction.	I know that although we in this area lean to the less racist side of the spectrum, prejudice in the truest sense exist and is rampant just below the surface of our daily interactions. I have witnessed this in a wide group of interactions from a police stop of an African American to a purchase at a convince store. People of different skin tones are not treated the same in almost every circumstance. Nothing could be more wrong. I have never understood why.	none
I would see at least three goals that would be important to achieve: 1. Educational: The current debate shows that that there has not been any kind of systematic thought or recognition of what the goals and purposes have been about why we even have public monuments. There is no common understanding of why we put them up, what their purpose is, and whether or not it's acceptable to take them down or rename them. Therefore, it would be important to articulate these things as clearly as possible, so that the public might be able to come to some widely held consensus not only about monuments, but also by extension, about the naming of streets, schools, parks and other public venues. 2. Community unity and growth: This is an opportunity for the city to take major steps forward in building bridges and opening roads in relationships and trust between the various communities that make up our city. By conducting open meetings and research, and by an open-ended process with no predetermined agenda or end other than the established purpose, the taskforce should be able to gain the	My best contribution will be an open mind and wide experience and knowledge. I have a gift for organization and analysis. As a minister I have naturally found myself in many situations of conflict, and am comfortable working through these challenges to a positive resolution.	I was born in 1945 and grew up when the Biltmore train station had a "colored" and a "white" waiting room, when blacks were in the back of the bus, with separate drinking fountains, theatre seating, schools, restaurants - everything was separate. In many ways, of course, everything has changed. In many other ways, however, there are still two realities, one of privilege and the other still struggling to overcome the past. The black population is a minority and so it is easy for the majority to ignore it and live in a world as before, albeit without "maids and servants." However, the challenges of the police department, and of our schools reflect the unfinished business of our city, as does the lack of diversity in most of everyday life. I attend All Souls Cathedral in Biltmore, and we have been focused on these issues for several years.	none.
Repurposing of the obelisk.	Determining the alternative methods to repurpose the monument.	Investigation, discussion and possible solutions should be undertaken.	None.

I would like to see a resolution to the question of repurposing or removal of the Monument that is based on the needs and concerns of the communities most affected by its continued presence. Moreover, i would like to be able to communicate that decision to the citizens of Asheville and Buncombe County in a way that demonstrates the care and concern, the listening and research, that dictated the decision.	I feel that, as a white male, I can use my position of power and privilege to access spaces that Black Asheville might not be able top access - to engage in conversations that might only be in the purview of someone with my skin and of my gender. Additionally, I believe I will contribute a compassionate and empathic ear. I will engage in much more listening than I will in talking.	The history of the marginalization of Black people in Asheville is a long and troubled one. Urban renewal in the middle and end of last century disproportionately targeting traditionally Black neighborhoods and communities. The intention of integrating Asheville City Schools in the 1970s uplifted white communities and teachers/staff while displacing Black teachers and staff. (For example, many teachers at Sephens Lee held post-graduate degrees and lived in their community. Few if any were able to transition to Asheville High during integration.) The systems that helped build Asheville and Buncombe County into a dynamic and economically vibrant region are built on racial inequities. Housing, healthcare, education, and income gaps continue to widen, even as national attention focuses on how great Asheville is. That the Black population continues to shrink (down to around 11% in Asheville City) shows that the needs of Black Ashevillians are not being met. I believe that a diverse and strong community is the best place for my children to grow.	none that I know of.
If appointed, I want to achieve the best possibly decision for the future of Vance Monument, and the cost to the county and tax payers for the repurposing or removal of it. We have to weigh out the cost and the citizens of this project. We will have to work on both sides of the fence	Teamwork, with a fair decision for all.	Being a southern town, there has always been a supression of the black community. Today, we are doing much better and need to continue to move forward. We should get away from the rebel flag mindset, and more forward. Growing up here I remember well the segregation of the schools in the late sixties, the race riots, and curfew that was placed on Asheville. In highschool working a summer job where white people would ask if a black person had drank from the water fountain. We are doing much better today. If repurposing or removal of the Vance Monument means moving the community forward, than let's do it.	I have no conflicts of interest
To reach agreement for all sides that will satisfy all sides and stop the division. To educate and inform that all people are human and make decisions during our lives that may affect later generations. Stop the violence .	Knowledge of our local history to show others that there is good in the citizens of the area. Understanding of the different sides in our current situation and the knowledge knowing that destruction of our history will never erase the history.	One side feels that is not held is the same light as OTHERS. They feel they are treated the same as other races. We have come a great distance in the past 155 years. Moreover in the last 60--50 years.	I have no conflicts of interest. I have lived in Asheville since birth (minus military). I own a house in Asheville and currenty live in the county.

I consciously chose Asheville as my home-not because of a job opportunity, investment purposes, etc.-but because I genuinely felt a calling to this city. I invested in this city by buying a home and laying down roots. This city is not where I need it to be so that I feel comfortable in public spaces, but I am willing to do the work to ensure Asheville is welcoming to people of color. If appointed to the Taskforce, I would like to remove the Vance monument and by way of replacing it with someone worth honoring help, be a part of the voice that signals to our community that racism is not tolerated in our city, just as it should not be tolerated anywhere else in the world.	Through my career, I have honed in on a practical skillset, however I am a creative at heart. I believe my biggest contribution to the Taskforce will be my ability to approach problems with a dual lens, which creatively assess options, while being mindful of practical hurdles we will need to overcome in order to remove the Vance monument. This coupled with my unwavering dedication to the antiracism cause will serve as the strength I can bring to this Taskforce.	I witness racial inequities in Asheville, at my job, and in my life every day. Systemic racism is a nationwide issue and I knew Asheville would not (could not) be exempt from this issue. I still remember searching "Vance" when my sister and I passed by it and not being surprised when we learned that he was a slave owner. I should have been shocked and outraged, but we've been conditioned to expect and normalize racism and monuments like the Vance memorial reinforce how deeply entrenched and normalized symbols of racism are in our country.	No.
No solution will please every citizen of the county. I want to seek a solution that is inclusive, objective about our history, welcomes input from citizens, and honors the integrity and validity of all citizens.	I will participate from the perspective of moral responsibility and deep appreciation of all Buncombe residents. I will bring an informed, educated awareness of our history, its accomplishments and failures, and its potential.	I am aware of economic, educational, and social inequities that underlie and pervade our community.	None.
I want to gather input from stakeholders in Asheville - the people who live and work and go to school here - and come to a recommendation that reflects the perspective of this community.	My day job calls me to be an advocate for my clients. I hope to be an advocate for the marginalized communities in Asheville in this endeavor. The first task at hand is to listen to the community. After that, I am confident that I can summarize and give voice to the feedback I have solicited in a persuasive way to the City Council.	I still have a lot to learn about the racial inequities in Asheville, and that is why I look forward to having conversations with the community while on the task force. It is apparent that there is a wide gap between Asheville's perception of itself and the reality, as experienced by racial minorities. That alone is enough to make us pause and determine what we can do to hear the concerns of Black Asheville residents.	No
That whatever happens to this monument is not a disappointment to either the Black community or other residents.	To offer a middle ground opinion between tear it down and leave it as it is. To think about other options such as moving it or renaming it.	If there are inequities, and I'm sure there are, they don't get much coverage in the media. The only incident I can recall getting publicity in the last year or two was the beating of a jaywalker by a policeman.	None
I would like to achieve a positive resolution that empowers our community by re-purposing the monument.	I think my best contribution will be my listening and communications skills.	I think there have always been too many instances of racial inequity in Asheville and Buncombe County. It is my goal to reduce those by educating citizens and empowering minorities.	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.
I'd like to help Asheville achieve a monument that equally honors the history of Pack Square and the past and future of our black community.	Creative Brainstorming, a desire and talent to unite, an investment in furthering Asheville's black community and a love of Asheville's history.	Like the rest of the country, Asheville has a long way to go to enact full racial equality. I'm optimistic that the Buncombe county police can evolve and I would like to more integration in our community on a whole.	None.

I hope to speak for the preservation community I'm a part of, with the understanding that not everything deserves to be saved. When the task force has completed, I hope we will have a solution that is meaningful for all of our residents and visitors. I can imagine a number of positive solutions and for now, I'm not tied down to any one option.	I would be happy to provide the feedback PSABC has been collecting thus far and willing to use our resources to continue to collect feedback from the community. I'm organized, patient with others and a good worker bee. I would aim to be a good team member to the rest of the task force and provide my skills wherever they can be best put to work.	I most often examine this question through a preservation lens and it is easy to see that we have lost far too many of our African American landmarks and neighborhoods in Asheville. With that said, as a white woman, I recognize that I can not come close to fully understanding the racial inequities that exist in our community, I can only promise to listen and learn.	Not that I'm aware of.
I would enter the Taskforce process with an open mind and an appreciation of the multiple forces and complex history that will shape the analysis and ultimate decisions. I hope there will be a thoughtful approach of learning from other communities, our own history, identifying options, and doing what will lead Asheville forward. I'd like to achieve a positive community outcome that acknowledges the new 21st Century era we are in.	I am a problem solver and enjoy working with people from varying perspectives to find the best solution. My relevant experience is as an architect on nonprofit projects with a public purpose, and as a volunteer working on community projects including doing extensive historical and other research. In these settings, I learned to navigate cross- cultural team dynamics. For successful project outcomes, architects have to be good listeners. I believe that I am a good listener and that I can be an asset to the Vance process.	Asheville is suffering a declining Black population as older generations die and those growing up here now see little opportunity so they leave and don't return; at the same time, we are not attracting people of color to move here. Our community has long had Black wealth, health and education gaps when compared to White residents. Some of the root causes of this stem back to land ownership discrimination issues and limited opportunities for employment. As a parent, I observed the present-day racial disparities and challenges in the Asheville City Schools. I have followed the State of Black Asheville programming and learned about the great disparities in business ownership, home ownership, and income. I appreciate the current concerns about police actions disproportionately adversely impacting people of color, recently illustrated by the Johnny Rush incident. I have been deeply concerned about the generational loss due to the high levels of incarceration of Black men, locally and nationally. Asheville's current	Partial owner of two formerly vacant and distressed downtown Asheville properties on Biltmore Avenue. One building was purchased from an African-American owner who was a former Asheville resident but was living in NYC. We rehabilitated and repurposed the properties from 1985 to 1995 and they now house small, locally- owned businesses.

A solution that is supported by the majority of all stakeholders and can survive the test of time.	Ability to actively listen to all stakeholders, lots of research, and helping to build consensus.	I believe that there has been a general unrest that has festered for too long. Efforts to resolve this seem to have been piecemeal with short duration of focus.	I have no conflicts of which I am aware
-Participate in a community-based decision on repurposing or removal of the Vance Monument. -Learn from community leaders and through research about Black history in Western North Carolina. -Public acknowledgment and recognition of the contributions of African Americans to the history of Asheville and Buncombe County -Advance race relations and racial justice in Asheville. -Opportunity to contribute knowledge, research skills and teaching experiences to an important community project.	-Historical knowledge of the origins of the Lost Cause mythology and erections of Confederate memorials as monuments to white supremacy. -Advanced research skills in historical sources. -Ability to communicate the importance of the task force's work to the community. -Interest in learning more about Black experiences on Asheville and Buncombe County in the past and in the preset. -Ability to listen to diverse points of view.	-Lack of economic opportunities and relative decline in Black population as city and county population has increased. -Gentrification making housing unaffordable for many residents. -Fragmentation of the Black community and loss of businesses and community centers. -Disparities of educational outcomes in public schools. -Inequalities in policing and in criminal "justice" system. -Limited awareness of Black contributions to the history and civic culture of Asheville and Buncombe County. -In sum, despite its liberal self-image, Asheville has many of the same racial inequities as other cites, but is small enough that change is possible and visible	None. As a relatively new resident of Asheville, I would bring an outsider's perspective to the task force's deliberations. I am sure you will receive many applications to serve on this task force, and if I am not fortunate to be appointed I am willing to serve in another capacity such as an unpaid consultant or researcher.

Again, I would like to help bring about the removal of the monument. But beyond that I'm eager to do the real work of re-imagining community safety in our our city in a way that drastically reduces the scope of policing in Asheville. The removal of this monument is important but cosmetic and for that reason I would be happy to offer my efforts to this task so others could preserve their energies for the larger work at hand: defunding the police department and thoughtfully building up the social support system that will exist in its stead.	I would commit to bringing my full effort to bear, putting my own personal ego aside, and being prepared for work, even if its unglamorous and bureaucratic at times. I would also advocate for efficiency and speed: I firmly believe that this should be a decision where we have formal recorded community input, but it also needn't take as long as proposed. I would love to see this taskforce do their work in less than the 90 days that are budgeted.	I don't pretend to have a comprehensive understanding of the current racial inequities in our community--I'm not proud to say that my awareness and activation around this equity work happened relatively recently. But I'm here now. That said, I've known for some time that Asheville is highly segregated, that a Black middle class is conspicuously absent, that our Black employees face so many challenges that our white employees do not, that Black residents leave Asheville to pursue professional careers elsewhere, and that our police force criminalized Blackness. We are now in the midst of the largest global civil rights movement in human history: it's time for Asheville to meaningfully join in.	I'm a part owner of a company that has a storefront downtown and a manufacturing space south of downtown--I don't see any conflict of interest here though. Those activities would not be affected by the outcome of this taskforce's work. Also: unsolicited feedback--this application process feels like a bit of a hurdle for folks to get involved. Is this the portal y'all use to get applications from businesses for various county services or economic development initiatives? It prompted my for my organization's info and my executive officer's contact info-- both of these would be potentially confusing for a non-business owning community member.
A decision that is based on research, facts, and data as well as community input. People will have their opinions and feel the louder they talk the more they should be listened to, but this is not a referendum. You are asking a group of twelve people from divergent backgrounds to reach a good decision. My hope would be to make that the best decision/recommendation possible.	My experience with group decision making. My willingness to be open to divergent views. My ability to help others stay on task and listen to others.	LIke many in this community I imagine I feel I am aware, but deep down I realize I truly am not. I imagine being a part of this process would open my eyes tremendously.	None of which I am aware.
Better relationships between all people.	Support and encouragement for the task at hand.	My understanding is that racial inequality has a lot to do with economic inequality, and that people are driven by not having enough money, and that they will do things to survive that many people stereotype racially.	No
I would like to ensure that the decisions made hold the interests of all peoples of every community and that it spreads a message of acceptance, love, unity, respect and tolerance.	My ability to diplomatically make decisions and being connected to this community and speaking up for the right thing.	I understand that there is a major divide between Caucasian and African-Americans as well as peoples of other nations. I know that tensions are high given the police brutality and the needless deaths if many African- Americans.	No confilct if interest exist.

The preservation of these monuments but the addition of further information on those they pertain to in the way of their life and how they lived it.	A non-aggressive view on the situation from someone who is native to this area.	I don't believe Asheville shares the same radical inequality as most cities.. We are made special not only because of of those of us who were born here but because of the views of those that have moved here.	None that I can think of.
If appointed to this taskforce, I would use my position to amplify the voices of the Black community. Based on what I have gathered from listening to Black Asheville residents, their desire is for the monument to be removed, rather than renamed or repurposed, and this is what I would advocate for within the taskforce. I would like to see the demands of Black Asheville residents met, and help assist in the creation of plans for a monument that celebrates the contributions of Black Asheville.	I am a passionate researcher and history enthusiast. I consider myself highly experienced in gathering and synthesizing data, which I have done regularly in academic and professional settings. Additionally, as a University student, I would be able to bring in the perspectives and concerns of younger Asheville residents. I also recognize that Black community leaders currently have much larger battles to fight, and that I have the time, passion, capacity, and skills to take on this project.	During my first year at UNC Asheville, I took a class in Community Engagement where we delved into the history of 'urban renewal' and 'redlining' in Asheville, and its lasting impacts today. As part of the course, we visited the Edington Center and learned about the history of Asheville's Southside Community, and then the Shiloh Community Garden where we learned about the racial disparities in access to fresh food. I have volunteered on multiple occasions with the YMCA's Nutrition Mobile Markets, working specifically at the Hillcrest and Pisgah View apartments' market sites which have been cut off from resources by highways and other urban planning initiatives. Here I saw firsthand how racially discriminatory city planning has left communities of color cut off from access to nutritious food and social services. I have also closely followed the work of Black community leader, DeWayne Barton, and educated myself on the vibrancy and achievements of Asheville's Black community, including but not limited to the YMI Cultural Center, Allen High	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.
Compatible agreement for all.	Where I lived in Virginia the ratio of black to white was 70% people of color. I believe in their causes.	I'm not sure if we have racial inequities here. Most of the complaints were from people outside the region. Would like to explore.	None I know of.

With my fellow Taskforce members, I believe our most significant achievement would be to present to the City and County a timely and specific proposal for removing/repurposing the Vance Monument and that this proposal wins the wide-spread approval and excitement of the African American community, and significant portions of the white community as well. The proposal should be specific enough to allow quick action on the part of our city and county governments, and provide recommendations on the next steps so that our community moves forward quickly. My personal goal in this process would be to amplify the voices of Black leaders and community members to recreate Pack Square with a monument that meets their voiced hopes for the next monument, and inspires, reflects, and honors the African American community in Asheville and Buncombe County.	I am an experienced process monitor. I can support the group in identifying benchmarks that will guide our progress, creating next action steps between meetings, building effective meetings agendas, and ensuring that the group completes the work on time with a proposal that achieves the goals of the Taskforce. As a member fo the Vance Monument Taskforce, I would be a good listener and support the group in identifying ways for the group to move forward when there is disagreement. I would assist the group in finding consensus. I have had the opportunity to participate in other taskforce-type work, most recently as a member of the North Carolina Leadership Forum. As a member of the Forum, I worked with people from diverse perspectives to identify points of agreement. I assisted in facilitating constructive conversations that lifted up solutions to the challenges and concerns that the group identified.	Racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County occur across every sector and facet of life in our community. From education to employment, to homeownership and healthcare, policies and practices have privileged white people with disproportionate access to resources and power. People of color, especially African Americans, have been robbed of wealth, opportunity, and safety. The interactions of systems have intentionally dismantled black communities through redlining and urban renewal, unjust policing, and the isolation of black communities from employment, healthcare, and resource-rich neighborhoods. Addressing these injustices, and increasing racial equity, will be long and difficult, but it is also urgent. I commend the city and county for moving to take down the monument and begin the community-wide journey of truth- telling about our collective past. It is critical that we take full stock of the damage that has been done to the black community. We must understand and reckon with the truth. Removing/repurposing the Vance Monument is one important step in re	I have no conflicts of interest with serving on this Taskforce.
The taskforce should achieve a detailed and well meaningl recommendation that will be presented to Council and Commission. I will state that I have no preconceived agenda. I do have a leaning towards change/updating/possible removal/re-naming/re-purposing etc. of Vance Monument and others like it. But I do not go into the Taskforce with a major bias one way or the other.	My best contribution will be to keep the process fair, transparent, and on task. I work really well with others, and am able to communicate and listen with an open mind and heart. I possess a very affable personality, and get along well with others, even when we do not agree. During my time as a Board Chair and Committee Chairs, I have gained a sense of how to address topics, and how to keep committees on task. I am results driven, and a fair and equitable process with a good final recommendation is my goal.	I do believe that racial inequities exist here, and the voices of POC have been ignored. Although we are not unique in this. I also believe that now is the time to address this inequity.and I applaud Council and the Commissioners for doing so! I work closely in our community with POC, and want to make sure that their voices are heard and not placated to. This is important, and the time is now to act.	I have no conflicts of interest that I am aware of.

I would like to see a monument in downtown Asheville that reflects the current values of Asheville, not the values of the builders of the original Vance monument. (Not to mention the questionable values of Vance himself.) To do this, we need to have nuanced conversations about the cultural purpose of monuments. Who are they for? What do they serve to teach us? From there, we might deduce what kind of monument would fulfill our community goals. Namely, what kind of community do we want to be? And how do we reflect those values in the memorial architecture we construct? If we simply tear down the monument without asking these difficult questions, we will have accomplished, in truth, very little. My hope is that we can achieve an intelligent, informed, and empathetic consensus on what kind of place Asheville is, and has been in the past. From that informed stance, predicated on compassion, we have the hope of building something in the place of the current obelisk that truly heals the community.	I believe that my multiple decades of experience both studying and visiting monuments, both domestically and abroad, will bring a wealth of understanding to the Taskforce. Ultimately, my academic expertise in this field, as well as my deep commitment to human rights and equity, will be my largest contributions.	While teaching at UNC-Asheville, I taught a course on systemic racism, in conjunction with the Humanities department. This is a type of college course I've taught before, but in this case, I was able to use Asheville as a case study. Put simply, the racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County mirror racial inequalities across the state and country. By way of explanation, I'll offer a few statistical examples. One, according to the NC DOJ, 39% of men stopped by APD are black and 16% of men given citations during a traffic stop are black, while 32% of men who are arrested during a traffic stop are black. Two, there are ten public housing communities in Asheville and 71.8% of the residents are black. And three, in 2012-2013, just 19.9% of black students in Grades 3 through 8 in Asheville City Schools were considered as having a proficient understanding of mathematics, which is a decrease of 42.4% from the prior year. These three statistics paint an incomplete but upsetting story about widespread inequities for African Americans in Asheville and Buncombe County. Inequities that stem from one thing: systemic racism reinforced time and	No.
testing the application	Testing the application	testing the application	None
My personal goal is to abolish these confederate monuments, and to act as a platform to uplift the POC voices in our community. I recognize that this is not about me, I would merely like to amplify the people who this is about.	I believe my best contribution to the taskforce will be my passion for the project and to better the community.	My understanding is that although Asheville and Buncombe county are very much progressive, it is still the south and there is work to be done to make our city better, and to ensure the safety of our citizens.	No, I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.
I would like to achieve true evaluation of the Vance Monument and the impact it has on the community of Asheville. I would also like to help achieve a platform for a community that is not heard and oppressed to gain some visibility and feeling like they belong here too.	My dedication, willingness to learn where I might not know things and ability to work with a diverse team.	I believe there are a lot of racial inequities in Asheville. It is a gentrified city. While I don't know specifics I'd like to learn more and learn how to advocate better for those that need support.	No.

A reasonable resolve to remove the Vance Monument in a manner that brings parity. Initiating a process that sets the stage for people to recognize and respect that all lives matter and monuments that display four hundred years of divisive bigotry are no longer going to be displayed.	Being totally transparent with the task force by providing fact checked transformative history that is at the root of hatred for people of color. I believe that lack of true history about race in America should come out and make for open dialogue that supports the monument removal.	Having work in programs that include schools, police, courts, management and housing Asheville has and continues to be remiss. Having lived and worked in Asheville since 1967 I have witnessed the disparity in home location pockets of poverty, employment, education, sentencing re-entry programs and patters of practice in discrimination for awarding gainful contracts to African Americans using the guise of "minority".Asheville is rapidly witnessing gentrification in jobs, housing, and education. It appears that there is no effort to stop the bleeding. Mental health care is a disaster for people who lack financial capability to get care.	Does not apply.
I would like Asheville to figure out an outcome all of its community members will be proud of. One that people today, and generations tomorrow, will look at the result and say that it was smart, well-planned and thoughtful.	I am a good collaborator. I can write. I value people's opinions. I am objective. I have a lot of knowledge about Asheville.	My understanding of racial inequality in Asheville is that there is a very serious wage gap and a very serious problem of economic inequality. That is why I have spent enormous amounts of my time fund-raising for scholarship money as the former Foundation Board Chair at UNC- Asheville and have always financially supported Open Doors of Asheville. Even more disturbing to me is the fact that when I grew up in Asheville, Asheville was about 13 percent African American. It is now, I believe, about 3 percent African American. Even more disturbingly, black communities have not been pushed out to outlying counties like what happens sometimes with urban gentrification. It seems the young people I grew up with moved away and older family members moved to be with them or passed away. It breaks my heart when I think how many neighborhoods used to be African American when I was a kid and they are just gone. I used to walk through an African American neighborhood to Claxton School on the other side of Charlotte Street as a child. Valley Street, of course, was African American and destroyed. Montford was African American. The	Not to my knowledge.
Removal and placement of the monument	Networking	Systemic and longstanding	No

I am hoping to work with the other task force appointees to create a plan of action surrounding the Vance monument that will relocate the monument to his birthplace; removing this pillar of shame from the City of Asheville; the City I have worked in, contributed to and paid taxes all my life.	My best contribution is teambuilding, problem solving and action oriented personality. My willingness to work as a team and my ability to communicate effectively.	Wow, I've been Black in Asheville my ENTIRE life, and I've experienced countless microaggressions throughout my professional career. I see a pivotal point in the City and an opportunity to begin to dismantle the systemic racial inequities that SO many have experienced and fought against. Right now as the world awakens to the realization of what African descendants have experience and known all along, this is a critical time to dismantle and rebuild, the way we interact with each other, how we see each other and more important what we allow from our law enforcement, City Government and County Government. It is time to hold responsible parties accountable for violence motivated by racism.	I am a employee of Buncombe County Government, but I don't think that would pose as a conflict. The City and County are jointly working on this taskforce, and I have notified my Supervisor of my intent to apply to this taskforce.
I would work with/listen to all views and solutions, in order to achieve a fair resolution (even if it's a tough call) to the eventual fate of the Vance Memorial. At this point, I have no preconceived idea of what should be done, but I am a hard worker, a fast researcher, and an able explainer of the processes and work we would need to do.	Listening. My listening to talking ratio is about 30 :: 1 in task forces and special committees. Leadership through earning the right to be heard. Group dynamics enabler/consensus builder	Things are broken. We live in the legacy of Jim Crow, Redlining, and repurposed land, appropriated from African American/Black sources (and Native sources).	None.
If appointed to the task force I would like to achieve a process and resolution that is not only a reflection of what the community desires but also provides an opportunity for conversation, education, negotiation, congregation and a meaningful process for as many stake holders from as many positions as possible. My desire is to help foster a change not only with in a physical monument but also create a dialogue and continuous process of learning and growth for all.	My greatest contribution to the task force is my desire for positive community involvement. I am often described as patient and able to talk with anyone. I love listening to people and having my own mind influenced by new thoughts and ideas. I love learning from others. I love bringing people together. I have years of developed personal and professional skills of working with individuals and groups with differing opinions and objectives.	My understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe are limited. I have my observations of gentrification and segregation within the city of Asheville. I have heard inappropriate remarks from professionals and individuals based on racial ideology. I have read news stories. I am not aware of statistical or policy information from the city or county. I understand philosophically how systemic racism has evolved and continues in this country, county and city. However, I have lived a life of white privilege.	No

I would like to determine a plan to remove the Vance monument from downtown. I would work with team members to determine the best way to go about this. For example, the monument might go to the Vance birthplace, along with a plaque explaining the historical significance of the monument, and why it's removal was important. I fully support removal, but am willing to explore what that would look like. I also like the idea of creating a replacement memorial to local black leaders, particularly Black women or LGBTQ people. I also think that incorporating more green space in that area would be beneficial.	My ability to advocate for others while recognizing that as a white person, I am in a position of privilege, and should always check in to make sure that my actions are supporting marginalized community members. I am a team player, I care deeply about Asheville and my community, and I can bring a trauma-informed perspective to the Taskforce.	Asheville-Buncombe unfortunately has significant issues when it comes to race. Due to generations of redlining, poor educational opportunities, lack of healthcare, lack of jobs that play a living wage, and ongoing gentrification, the Black community has not been able to build generational wealth or have access to the same opportunities as white peers. Overt racism is not a thing of the past here, unfortunately. The fact that confederate monuments still stand is proof of this. The Vance monument is only one part of a much larger issue, but it is a start toward showing solidarity with the Black community. To this point, although I would like to serve on the Taskforce I think that it needs to be made up of a diverse group and half of the members, at minimum, should be Black community members.	None that I am aware of.
As stated above, I would like the Vance monument repurposed to be a powerful teaching tool and yet remain in it's place of prominence on Pack Square. While working and raising children, I was never part of any community organizations, but now that I am retired, I would like to use my time effectively to bring about positive change in Asheville.	I am level headed and think I can be objective, listening to other opinions and coming to an agreement even if it is not my personal preference. I am an avid researcher of subjects I have interest in. After the recent events started, I began researching the governors and other politicians from our area and the history of slavery here. I am computer literate and love to, as the Expectations above state, "gather data."	I have to be honest and say I do not really understand what the current racial inequities are in our area, realizing only that they do exist. Through volunteering at Eblen Charities I have gotten a glimpse of the results of the problems.	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.
I look forward to working closely with the other task force members to reach consensus on the best path forward for our community.	I am a good listener and good synthesizer of different viewpoints. I hope to lend my skill set toward helping the collective reach consensus.	My understanding is that there exists significant racial inequity across many areas of our community including within health care, education, housing and criminal justice.	None

I don't know, other than to do research with the committee members and study the life of Vance. I think understanding the man will lead to a story, and that story might dictate what should happen.	An open mind. It does no good to have made a decision without having a good understanding of the facts? I would hope that I have the skill to create a narrative with the committee and then the ability to communicate that narrative in a creative way to the community that would result in a final solution.	I don't have a good understanding. I am aware of what I have seen from a national level but don't know locally of particular inequities. That's what makes this effort so interesting to me. It is a chance for me to be educated and integrate that into the final narrative.	None
I hope to help the Task Force find a common purpose in replacing or altering the Vance Monument in such a manor as to honor the local history of African-Americans; instead of one who embodied the evils of servitude and oppression. Furthermore, I would like us to find a way to use it to symbolize a message that is positive, aspirational, and inclusive of all.	I have both vision and practical experience. Just as I led the initiative that created the MLK Prayer Breakfast, and under my leadership the MLK Association brought Dr. King's statue to the MLK Park. Now, our association has been designated the lead organization in support of the Buncombe County Remembrance Project sponsored by the Equal Justice Institute (EJI).	We see inequities in the criminal justice system and in education. For example, there are stark disparities in law enforcement in the Black and White communities. Black people are three times more likely to be searched in traffic stops compared to their white counterparts by the Asheville Police Department	No conflict of interest.
I would like the monument to be removed entirely and replaced. What replaces it should be up to Asheville's African-American community and the Taskforce must focus on those voices. I also believe that the monument should acknowledge the traditional indigenous territory on which the monument and the city of Asheville stand. This monument will stand for generations and as we move towards addressing the greater colonial legacy of this country, a legacy which contains the racial inequities in consideration, the monument should grow with that larger movement.	My main intention is to elevate, support and defend Black voices on the Taskforce and within the community. I believe that my research into the topic may be able to shed some light on other solutions, successes and failures related to these monuments. I also believe it will be important to Asheville's archives and future education on the topic to properly document this process. As a documentary photographer and photography educator at Appalachian State, I could advise community members on how to accomplish this effectively.	Racial inequities in Asheville are severe and increasing. Urban renewal projects that have been in motion for a century continue in the form of increased focus on tourism and hospitality while the city faces an affordable housing crisis. Asheville is badly segregated along racial lines and gentrification is rapidly worsening the issue. These issues require immediate policy-based action.	No.
Result that heals wounds and enhances our home	Historical knowledge, creativity	We have a lot of work to do, and it is time to do it	I work For Buncombe County in the NC Room at Pack Library
I would advocate for excellence in our plan for the space currently occupied by the Vance monument, for a vision that moves us forward and inspires the community, not just expedient removal or name substitution.	I expect to contribute to the clarity of vision of the final report, to help sell the process and the outcome of the process, and, most importantly, to ensure transparency and make sure that our Black community and other minority communities are not silenced, sidelined, or ignored.	We have long standing racial inequities in housing, policing, job opportunities, early childhood education, and political representation. These inequities show in our highways that devastated black communities, in disparities in access to home ownership and multigenerational wealth, and in educational outcomes.	I am not aware of any potential conflicts of interest.

Most broadly and importantly, I would like to achieve a solution that reflects the values of Asheville, the contributions of the local African American community and is endorsed by a majority in the community. At another level, I think the process used here needs to be documented and the experience made available to other communities. At a personal level, I would like to bring something back to my students, so they can learn from this. Certainly, my knowledge of Asheville and the experiences and contributions of African Americans will increase.	I'm a good brain stormer and listener. A creative solution needs to be generated regarding the Vance Monument. Ideas will need to flow and from the threads of many conversations, a resolution created. As a member of the task force my contribution should be to channel what the community wants to see happen with the monument, within whatever legal and financial restrictions apply. Another contribution will be to listen to who the community would like to honor. The task force can create a list of African Americans to honor, we can prioritize it, but the community at large will need final say on what happens. I am task oriented and have worked with diverse groups throughout my years in the school system. Identify and recommend African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County-- reads like a task I would assign my students and my skill set of critical thinking and research will allow me to contribute to this goal.	The story in Asheville Citizen Times on Saturday, June 27th, documents my understanding of racial inequities in our area and beyond. The data shows what we have been hearing for years – racial profiling exists and it targets African Americans. Beyond that, Achievement Gap data reveals Asheville City Schools is not meeting the needs of all students. My own experience as a public high school teacher for 25 years aligns with that data: black and brown students were left out of AP courses and more likely to be directed to non-college tracks. The Mapping Racial Equity project outlines the negative impact of redlining on our community, which mirrors the horrible pattern across the country. Local efforts to address inequalities are well intentioned and underway in our community: the Racial Healing Grants the city has offered and the Justice Resource Advisory Council organized by the county. Considerably more time, effort and resources will be required to redress the racial inequities in Asheville and beyond	I can not think of any conflict of interest that would prevent me from serving on the task force or call into question any input I make to the task force.
I would like to see the Vance Monument repurposed to represent a complete history of the diverse people who contributed to today's City of Asheville. I would prefer that the monument became a symbol of reconciliation rather than being removed, which would be a denial of history. Slavery and racism are American shames that cannot and should not be erased. We learn from admitting mistakes, not hiding them. Repurposing this monument to acknowledge that the City of Asheville has worked to overcome that shame can be a guiding light for the future.	To provide an open-minded perspective of an older native of Asheville regarding the Pack Square / Vance Monument over the years.	I believe that Asheville and Buncombe County have inequities of opportunity, education, jobs, and income that are still limited by race and status. Much has improved since I was a poor child growing up on Oak Street in downtown Asheville, but I came to realize that even poverty was an advantage if your skin was white. It was disheartening then, and it is disheartening today. I believe that Asheville has enough caring people to overcome many of these inequities, but it will be an ongoing work-in-progress.	None
I would like to show that Asheville, and the South in general are not what these monuments represent. To write off the South as a "lost cause" as a regressive political is a negative perception that only further harms black and brown communities. Although it's only a visual representation, I think choosing a more inclusive monument will further Asheville's chance of becoming a more equitable city.	Open mind and open hears. I think I'm much more useful as a listener and then as a microphone for unheard voices than to be another ego trying to yell the loudest.	I am a white, CIS gendered female so my understanding is already starting from a place with much to learn. I am, however, actively engaged in many black communities and learning more each day about the root causes of racial injustices and hope to be able to be an ally in addressing the systemic causes. I'm very aware because they are systemic, they will take a long time and replacing a monument won't be enough, but it will be a start.	I work for a downtown brewery but don't think that should causes any conflicts as they won't be contributing in any way.

As it assembles its research and offers recommendations for outcomes, I would like to help the Taskforce maintain optimal transparency in its work and communications. Doing so will help ensure that whatever outcomes are reached reflect our community's Zeitgeist, social sensibilities and commitment to a diverse and inclusive place for all to live, learn, play and love. This particular charge for the Taskforce is likely to be a benchmark for others of its kind in the future, so getting it as right as we can is crucial. Everyone will be watching.	Although this question seems a tad premature to ask (I suppose we won't know the outcomes or their quality until they're determined and implemented), I would hope my greatest value to the Taskforce would come from both my 29 years of professional experience in one of the most diverse and inclusive companies in the US, and also my native mountain upbringing. The challenge before us, however, is more than racial or historical. It's also generational. Living generations have a broad and often disparate understanding of how they fit into our on-going story as Americans, North Carolinians and Ashevilleans. I believe I can help the Taskforce bring these three separate challenges together to form a cohesive and sensitive approach. Moreover, my Masters studies and experience abroad may help us learn something that Germany went through after World War II: it's called "Vergangenheitsbewältigung" or overcoming your past. They spent decades going through that process. Perhaps we're at a place where we need to do something very similar, because we can't afford to squander any more opportunities.	Through daily living, over the years and now. Being a white southern male has opened doors for me that were not always open to those born under different circumstances. Over the years in Asheville, there has been greater awareness generated but mainly through economic development and gentrification which have not equitably benefited all our communities. Little by little, the sores that have tried to heal get reopened a little bit each time overt discrimination and unfair treatment are seen publicly. It's the quiet, more covert inequities that continue to hold us back from really being who we can be as a diverse people. Diversity can be thought of as an iceberg, whose majority of mass is below its waterline and out of sight: diversity of thought, values, beliefs, education, life experience, etc. So many good-intended initiatives forget about the deeper diversity below the waterline.	None.
I would feel most satisfied if efforts of the Taskforce brought a solution to the Vance Monument that was supported by a vast majority of our neighbors. I have personal ideas today, but I look forward to the greater ideas that can coalesce during a public discussion. The Taskforce can draw the many stakeholders within the city and county toward a goal of lifting this monument to a higher purpose. This will be difficult in this period of Covid19 but it is important to move quickly to a resolution. Some of our neighbors have already waited over 400 years.	Much of my work as an architect has involved historic buildings. It has often been helpful to dialogue with the surrounding neighborhood when proposing changes to a property that they feel is important to them in the midst of their neighborhood. This work of bringing all stakeholders together to envision change will be required in consideration of Vance Monument. My friends and colleagues recognize me as a voice of calm during times of stress; I remain patient while working forcefully; focused while listening to opposing ideas.	Probably elusive to most whites; near daily routine for people of color. Opportunities for people of color are not as numerous as that for whites within our society.	No.

"You either have to be part of the solution, or you're going to be part of the problem." Eldridge Cleaver. I would like to be a part of the "solution." A successful resolution to the "issue" of the Vance Monument will be a visual/concrete (or granite) signal to the community that there is a desire to "make things right." While not specifically addressing deeply rooted issues of inequality, it may be seen as a step on the road to change.	I have the perspective of age.I and am experienced in group process and conflict resolution. I listen well. I have grown beyond the point where I care what people think about me when I speak in public.	Law enforcement and the criminal justice system routinely treat people of color differently that they do those of the dominant culture. Housing is de facto segregated. Schools do not adequately address the deficits which children of color disproportionately bring with them to the classroom. People of color experience more difficulty accessing health care. The list goes on.	I am no aware of any conflicts of interest
To reach a common goal of determining what is best for EVERY citizen of Asheville, NC.	Fiscal responsibility and compromise to reach a common goal.	I could offer up my opinion on this but an opinion would be all I have to offer. I have never personally experienced direct racial inequities in Asheville but I will not deny or argue that they are not taking place.	Although I am a local business person, at no point would I allow my business pursuits to conflict with this task force. This is about Asheville, not me.
The relocation of Vance monument and more celebration of the African American community.	I have expertise in public art, art history, art controversies, and previous public service on Asheville's PACC committee.	I worked with the South Slope neighborhood and the African American Heritage group during my time PACC. Our main focus was to place a public artwork within those neighborhoods celebrating the African American history of Asheville.	No conflict

If appointed to this Taskforce, I would like to achieve an outcome that is fair and equitable to everybody in the city (particularly one that best represents equity for those of color in this city).	I hope to be able to contribute at least the following: Mediation Research The ability to reach out to the community of color and represent their voice	As a white man who is not native to North Carolina, I couldn't possibly claim to truly understand current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County. However, in the time I've lived here it's been easy to watch the gentrification of the city and the redlining of black neighborhoods throughout the county. It's very easy to tell who matters in the area just by looking at the names of roads and places: Biltmore, Vance, Reynolds. If I were just visiting, it would seem like the city is made of wealthy white people who love other wealthy white people.	I am not aware of any potential conflicts of interest.
My primary goal would be in ensure any replacement or repurposed monument is historically accurate and representative of contributions made by underrepresented members of the community. The monuments should reflect and highlight previously untold stories.	My best contribution will be my broad understanding of the community as a whole and the myriad of familial relationships that have been established over decades.	Unfortunately, I'd be hardpressed to think of any areas where racial inequities do NOT exist in our community. My neighbor of 35 years compiles and presents the well known State of Black Asheville report. In reviewing the data, the financial and educational disparities really caught my attention. As longtime resident, I witnessed much of the redlining and subsequent gentrification that resulted from governmental policies. This systemic approach has resulted in the current racial strain in our community. The removal or repurposing of these monuments is the firsts step in righting historical wrongs.	None

I would like to see African American history be more accessible to everyone and also to integrate it into Asheville's history. It is our community's history. This history needs to be valued by its own community also. Too often I have heard older people say who cares about that? Schools no longer emphasize teaching history so younger people have no understanding of why things are the way they are today. If the community can see that their history is valued by the entire community it can encourage efforts to preserve the people parts,not just facts and dates. Pack Library is one way and hopefully there will be other repositories. It is not easy for people to share this, but when they are gone how will their stories be told? Another goal of my participation in the task force would be to spread the word about preserving and valuing history and emphasizing the resources we have in our community to preserve it.	My best contribution to this taskforce would be my experience in making history accessible.I understand the value of giving the younger generation something they can see in their community that gives them a sense of pride about who they are. I can also add another perspective. I have documented the history of a minority in this community that was not mentioned in the history books. A minority that also faced prejudices and hatred which is still strong. Vance, through his "Scattered Nation" speech included Jews in his racist attitude.	My understanding of Asheville's racial inequities comes from my interaction with the African American community both through my research projects and living in a "diverse" neighborhood, Montford. Also my background is in Urban Planning (MA) which gave me a clear understanding of urban renewal and its devastating effects. Specifically in Asheville, I have studied the African American education system from the 1880s into the 1970s. It was separate and unequal yet the community members instilled the value of education in their children along with strong moral values through their religious beliefs. Stephens-Lee high school (SLHS) was the epicenter of the community cultivating the values of education, the arts, music and sports. Graduates left with the confidence to succeed. Unfortunately, in order to do that, many had to leave Asheville for their careers. This resulted in a small African American middle class. Integration was just thrust on the community in the 1960's as SLHS was shuttered. The 70's brought "urban renewal or Negro removal" further destroying strong communities. After that the African	None
If appointed to the Taskforce, I would like to achieve the recommendations made in the joint resolution to removal and or repurposing of the Vance Monument is completed on time. I would like to see something designed or created to shows the diversity and show the contributions African Americans have made want to make in our community. I will actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report. Have experience in identifying and recommending African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County. I would like to see the Taskforce make sure the project is completed on time and that will represent cultural diversity, equity, and inclusion.	My best contributions to the Taskforce would be the following: 1. I served on the Public Arts Project 1. I have experience in researching the contributions that African American have made in the Asheville Community 2. I believe in teamwork, collaboration, and completing the assigned task. 3. I had the opportunity to meet and work with some African Americans who made contributions to our community from the past and their legacy. 4. 1994 -1995, I served on the Public Arts Commission that selected sculptor Albert Paley to create the "Passage" sculpture in 1995. It stands at the corner of Patton Avenue and Otis Street, by the National Climate Data Center, Federal Building 1994 - 1995. 5. I am open-minded and committed to the team effort that 6. I served on the Public Arts Leadership Team Sub-committee for Art Ecologie Public Art for the City of Asheville: 2018 – 2020	When we talk about our rich history in our community, we rarely mention the contributions that African Americans have made. African American present is almost invisible to tourists and us. For years of Black Codes, Jim Crow segregation, redlining, and predatory lending left the African American community with limited capacity to build wealth. Yet, despite these barriers, our African Americans could own homes and businesses. This process moved members into public housing, with no ownership, creating the conditions for multi-generational poverty and related issues. Since urban renewal, the City of Asheville has significantly built its tax base, allowing real estate speculators and developers to profit on property taken from Black residents with minimal compensation. It has benefited financially from the unchecked growth of tourism and the spread of gentrification, which have further marginalized our community to thrive within our neighborhoods and the Eagle/Market business district. This process moved many families into public housing, with no ownership,	None

I offer an "artistic reparations" proposal: I envision the plaques bearing Vance's name on the four sides of the Obelisk's pedestal replaced or covered by bas-reliefs, laser-etched on granite slabs, that memorialize in graphic form the struggles and achievements of Black hero/ines of Asheville (I've started a list of candidates). Their stories would be told by lively mural-style art chosen by competition, rather than by drab verbal epitaphs. This re-purposing would be far less expensive and, I believe, more popular than a traditional bronze sculpture replacement (or, more likely given budget constraints, a permanent hole in the ground), and would enable any graphic artist potentially to contribute, rather than only elite sculptors. The artistic competition alone should get lots of people very interested in learning more about Black Asheville's history. To appease state law and sincere "heritage-not-haters", I'd suggest devoting the Northern panel to a depiction of both the evil and the good of Vance's complex legacy. Let's tell the whole truth instead of either evading or erasing it. We also might consider using one or two of	A deep and compassionate understanding of Asheville's history. As a Witch, I too have been continually on the receiving end of prejudice and hate, and that includes police abuse, as well as public inscriptions such as "In God We Trust" that continually remind me I'm a marginalized minority. But I also have respect for the old and the pre- existing, be it a treasured magnolia tree, a century-old obelisk, or an age- old clash of cultures. I'll ensure that all voices are heard and I'll listen closely to each of them before speaking my own mind. I will invite perspectives that other committee members might not think of, such as that of the Masons who built the monument, and residents who value it for its own sake, regardless of the symbolism others inscribe or project onto it -- people who would be impacted negatively by the removal of the Obelisk. I will encourage and advocate for creative & practical rather than destructive & costly solutions.	I'll list 3 areas: 1) Police bias: I was a co-founder of Asheville Justice Watch in 2003, the movement for reform of the Asheville Police Dept. that began in March, 2003, after the APD was filmed assaulting and arresting 47 participants (including me) in a peaceful protest march against the beginning of the Iraq War that began -- like so much of Asheville's free-speech history -- around the Obelisk. I helped fellow member Bruce White collect and document the Black community's long-ignored experiences of routinely brutal and discriminatory policing. We also heard from APD officers about racism within the force. 2) Environmental justice -- tree canopy: I'm on the Tree Protection Task Force, which is currently trying to educate the city about the demonstrable fact that poor and Black neighborhoods are disproportionately exposed to health risk such as dangerous heat because -- to put it bluntly -- city authorities and developers purposefully strip them of trees in the name of "security" & "density". 3) Enviro. justice -- I-26 Freeway: As a member of I-26 ConnectUs, I've seen how this freeway was	No.
The main achievement I'd like to see is the facilitation of this process in a way that leaves community members feeling like their voice has been heard. I am trying very intentionally not to get attached to any one outcome but to imagine various possibilities. Specific goal include: -First off, identifying with other Taskforce members specific, actionable goals and a timeline for the work of the Taskforce -Research to understand the various issues and expansive possibilities for removal, recontextualizing, or repurposing -Outreach to various community groups and residents to solicit general input; designing and distributing surveys with targeted questions to understand community reactions to various proposals being considered -Producing reports and written materials that address not only the specific recommendations of the Taskforce, but responding to and explaining clearly WHY we have chosen this path over other community visions	I see my main role as a supporting one; rather than coming in with a predetermined view of the outcome I'd like to see and centering my own perspective, I want to work with other members of the Taskforce to clearly articulate what we wish to achieve together, and then pose questions, solicit community input, and offer comments to help our discussions stay focused so we use our time effectively in service of our goals and objectives. I believe that my best contribution to the Taskforce will be in helping to align surveys, statements, reports, and other written products of the Taskforce with language that can resonate with a wider audience and that is grounded in terms and principles commonly used in the fields of historic preservation and heritage interpretation.	My understanding is not deep enough. This is not something I am proud of, just an acknowledgment of the reality. I am guilty of being too absorbed in my own experience to have educated myself fully about the specifics of life for people of color in Asheville, nor to have reached out and intentionally developed strong connections with the local Black community. As such most of my information about the present reality has come from progressive-minded White folks and is undoubtedly incomplete. I am grateful to Black community members for sharing their stories and experiences publicly on June 6. I understand that the Asheville Police Department has a recent history of murdering and assaulting Black community members and that the oversight and response so far has been insufficient. I understand that policies pursued by the City have contributed to the dissolution of once-thriving Black business communities and neighborhoods under the guise of economic development and that there is widespread concern that the	My brother is Chair of the Buncombe County Democratic Party. My employer may have contributed to preservation efforts of the Vance Monument in the past; I have had absolutely zero involvement I have worked with the Buncombe County Board of Elections as an Election Judge; I am cognizant that how I engage with discussions on this Task Force may have bearings on my ability to be perceived by others in the community as impartial.

I would seek to put forth my best abilities, energies, and good will with the Task Force to thoroughly research, examine the facts, listen to presenters, including constituencies and authorities, and to report and to recommend action by elected officials to the end that we may heal and move forward and to the light as the progressive city we aspire to become.	Good will, a commitment to listen and to be fair; a willingness to take a stand, as my career has demonstrated.	The Asheville Police apprehension and beating of Mr.Johnnie Rush for jaywalking as he sought to get home late at night after a 13 hour shift at the Cracker Barrel exposed the raw inequities in our city and county. I spoke with a co-worker of Mr. Rush a few days after the police video-cam was first released by The Asheville Citizen-Times and aired on television news.The gentleman I spoke to wore a Cracker Barrel cap and stood at the bus stop across from Ingle's. He had just gotten off his shift at Cracker Barrel. I asked him if he knew Mr. Rush and he said did. In fact, he had worked beside him at the restaurant.He spoke of how Mr. Rush was a good person and was just trying to get home after long hours. Asheville deserves better than the police department we had at that time. My concern was that elected officials apparently did not know of the incident until they and we in the public learned of it when the police body cam was shown on the news. I have attended the Dr Martin Luther King, Jr Annual Prayer Breakfast since my retirement to Asheville in June 2017. I have gotten to know	None.
I would like to assist in the research and development of a progressive monument to change and the racial inclusivity of this town. I would like to see a monument to progress built and for it to be a gathering place for what change can be.	I believe that I will be able to best assist with the research, formation, and editing of documents to present to the council regarding the proposed changes and or new building of a monument where the Vance Monument currently stands.	While this town is known as a progressive haven, more can be done to be more inclusive in this town. Whether it is in the form of affordable housing, access to health care, or equal opportunities for employment and education, this city can and should do better to treat all of its citizens equally and embrace them all.	I am not aware of any conflicts of interest.
To achieve an equitable and uniform decision that would provide a harmonious community. I understand a monument to honor an African American hero is what the community is looking to replace the Vance Monument with, but I believe a monument should honor ALL heroes of the community and to be inclusive. We create diversity when we choose to select one over the other. Why not have a monument celebrating everyone's contributions to Buncombe county as a Monument to the People?	Research skills, and my ability to approach and obtain dialog from anyone.	There is quite a bit of microaggression. This is a county that want to appear to be indifferent toward ethnic, racial or sexual orientation. In reality, it's want is sparking the flames that can get out of hand if not addressed.	No

I wish to achieve taking down the Vance monument as well as possibly repurposing the Vance materials in a kind of ultimate symbolism of rebirth and change. It would also mean so much to me to have a closer connection with my neighbors!	My ambition, passion, drive, positive personality, and accountability. I will live at every meeting being held. I am also very comfortable meeting new people and asking them questions. Since I am a very personable person, I feel like I will be well received.	There is serious disparity of the allocation of funding for the enrichment of people of color and black communities. I believe that housing projects and lack of educational opportunities work to keep black people and people of color from attaining better job opportunities which then subsequently cause the array of racial inequality	No
I would like my voice to be part of this decision. Politicians should step aside concerning this issue and let ordinary citizens voice their opinions.	impartial. Honest. Love for MY city.	i find this question nearly comical. There is racial division sweeping this country. It has been brewing in Asheville for a long time. Im requestingcto join this task force concerning the Vance Monument. If I wished to tackle all of our social and political issues, I would be applying at the Board of Elections.	No.
Asheville is a unique and diverse city. The intersection at Pack Square and the Vance monument is a physical focal point and crossroads of Asheville history. The task force has an opportunity to create a new association with that area's history. I can imagine the space redefined as a gateway to Asheville celebrating it's diversity and history. A place that narrates where we've been, what we have accomplished and where we are going. The history of Western North Carolina and Asheville is full of interesting and influential people and events, many of which have been forgotten. It is time for Asheville (and the South) to let go of it's negative past and into a proactive future.	As mentioned in the previous question, my career has taught me: attention to details, maintaining focus on the task and goals, finding creative and unique methods to accomplish tasks and how to identify and celebrate others talents and abilities to accomplish the tasks. My best contribution is the ability to listen to others and demonstrate compassion.	I am not an expert in social science nor will I attempt to be one. However, if someone tours Asheville with awareness of their surroundings the racial and socioeconomic inequities become very apparent as you pass through town or if you read demographic reports or if you visit Asheville after the tourist's have left, the true city emerges. The removal and/or the re-purposing of the Vance monument space will not cure all of our problems but it may help to guide us towards a more effective future.	None
Peaceful resolution that would bring unity and pride to the community.	being a person of reason who is more interested in a positive outcome over a predisposed disposition.	Buncombe county is predominately white which naturally creates an imbalance. There needs to be more diversity, period. There are cultural issues as much as there are racial issues but I feel the cultural aspect is something we can have a more meaningful impact. Racism, in my opinion, is systemic of culture, it is a learned behavior toward someone of a different race or nationality. This can be changed. Buncombe county also has a tremendous socio- economic divide where a large percentage of our population are living under substandard conditions. The issues we face are not simply black or white, they are much more complex than that.	I have no conflicts.

Availability (this question is optional)	Race	Sex	Age	City of Asheville	Buncombe County Non City of	# of years resident?	Internet Access?
Just about any time or day.	Cau	F	56 and older	North		5	Yes
I can be available most any time.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older		South	65	Yes
Anywhere from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. except on Saturdays, but I will adjust this day if it is necessary. And if Buncombe County / Asheville City Schools start up again with students at the school, 9 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	European / Cherokee	Female	46-55	West		5	Yes

I am wide open. I own my own at- home business and can create my own schedule. I would be one who shows up and is eager to give my time to this very important task!	Cherokee Filipina Blk fam	Female	36-45	East	East	8	Yes
Daytime is better, but I can meet anytime.	White	Female	56 and older	South		31	Yes
I am most available between 1pm-6pm on weekdays, but can be flexible with other times.	White	Female	36-45	North		6	Yes

Any day except Monday evenings	Black	Queer, A female at birth	26-35	South	East	3	Yes
My schedule is currently very flexible, so I should be able to meet whenever meetings are scheduled.	White	Male	56 and older	Central		18	Yes
If the meetings are held virtually, I am quite flexible.	White	Male	26-35		North	7	Yes
As I said, I work 2 jobs, but I'm sure that there is plenty of flexibiliy	White	Female	46-55		West	32	Yes

I do work a 9 to 5 job, however with some notice I could adjust my work schedule to participate in the task force.	White	M	56 and older	East		15	Yes
I am most available at the end of the week in the afternoons. However, my schedule is flexible and I would be able to make most meetings work.	White	Male	26-35		North	23	Yes
Any	Caucasian	male	46-55		North	29	Yes
My best days and times are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after 10:30am.I prefer business hours meetings but I'm willing to meet up til 7pm. COVID IS STILL SERIOUS. I am immunodeficient. As things are opening up I trust that should in-person meetings start to happen, that there will always be accomodations for zoom or other similar meeting platforms to be used for the foreseeable future.	Black	Female	56 and older		North	13	Yes

My best days and times are Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after 10:30am.I prefer business hours meetings but I'm willing to meet up til 7pm. COVID IS STILL SERIOUS. I am immunodeficient. As things are opening up I trust that should in-person meetings start to happen, that there will always be accomodations for zoom or other similar meeting platforms to be used for the foreseeable future.	Black	Female	56 and older		North	13	Yes
Mornings and late afternoons (after 4 p.m.) Monday-Thursday are preferable.	Caucasian	Female	56 and older		West	65	Yes
I would prefer in the evenings	White	Male	56 and older		North	5	Yes

Any late afternoon/evening s except 3rd Thursdays. Available in the AM on 1st & 3rd Saturdays	White	M	46-55	North		45	Yes
My schedule is adjustable. From experience I have found that meetings that begin on the half hour have a greater sense of timeliness in terms of getting started on time and getting down to business.	White	Male	56 and older	Central		13	Yes
I am semi- retired, so my availability is not a problem.	Caucasion	Male	56 and older	North		67	Yes

If appointed, I could be flexible with timing that would work best for the group. Generally, afternoons and evenings during the week would work well.	Black	F	26-35		North	9	Yes
I can be available anytime.	White	Male	26-35	Central		3	Yes
I am available at anytime.	W	M	56 and older	North		8	Yes
Any day, but I may need to attend virtually as I am concerned about meeting indoors with people at this time.	white	female	56 and older	Central		5	Yes

I am a retired engineer from GE Asheville so any time is fine.	Caucasun	M	56 and older		East	15	Yes
I have court hearings two or three days a month, but these are always in the morning and should be easy to schedule around.	Caucasian	M	56 and older	North		42	Yes
My availability would be Monday- Friday; anytime in the afternoon or evening	White	Male	56 and older		North	67	Yes
Flexible	Colored	Male	56 and older	North		26	Yes

Any days or times. I am retired and no longer working for Asheville City Schools due to school closures due to Covid19.	White	Cis Female	56 and older	West		66	Yes
i am self employed, so i can regulate my work hours to be available when necessary.	white	female	56 and older	Central		7	Yes
My schedule is flexable and would be able to attend meetings either day or night.	White	Male	36-45		West	13	Yes
I have a significant amount of time on my hands. I'm very detailed and task oriented.	White	Male	56 and older		North	2	Yes

Weekdays or evenings.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older		West	55	Yes
I am free throughout the day on Mondays and Fridays. I am available other days in the morning and evening	African American	Female	56 and older	East		4	Yes
Monday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Tuesday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Wednesday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Thursday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Friday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Saturday 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM Sunday unavailable	Caucasian	Male	46-55	Central		10	Yes

Early morning or late afternoon/evening.	White	Female	26-35	Central		2	Yes
I have great flexibility as a retiree but I do have obligations to my church on Sunday mornings and Wednesday evenings. My Monday evenings are given to a group study beginning in September. Otherwise I have an open schedule.	white	female	56 and older		North	65	Yes
I work full time, but my job would be fully supportive of my taking time to work on this task force as needed. I work downtown so easily can commute back and forth as needed.	White	Female	36-45		North	10	No

I will commit to 100% participation in these meetings and therefore will be flexible to the time that is best for the entire group.	white	female	36-45	West	West	6	Yes
Evenings are probably best after the second half of August.	White	Female	36-45	West		13	Yes
Possibly afternoons, most people are working in the morning.	Black	Female	18-25		East	8	Yes

With enough notice I can accommodate meetings during the week day as well as in the evening and would be willing to attend events and meetings during the weekend. I do have a clinical schedule that would make Monday and Wednesday mornings not ideal for me.	White	Female	46-55	West		21	Yes
With enough notice I can accommodate meetings during the week day as well as in the evening and would be willing to attend events and meetings during the weekend. I do have a clinical schedule that would make Monday and Wednesday mornings not ideal for me.	White	Female	46-55	West		21	Yes

As above currently working from home a lot, normally travel good amount for work. I use Microsoft teams, web ex and skype for business. Telework will be needed at times. Friday afternoons work well and Tuesday, Wednesday days/ evenings also can work. I am home every weekend of travel must occur for work.	Caucasion	male	46-55	West	West	47	Yes
I am retired so my life is flexible.	White	Male	56 and older	North		28	Yes
after 12 noon any day of the week. I am a Milk processor working for Ingles Markets for 36 years with perfect attendance.	White	Male	56 and older	West	West	58	Yes
Anyrhing in the afternoon on week days work best for me.	Caucasian	male	26-35		West	12	Yes
I work M-F 9-5 but I make my own schedule and can very flexible.	White	Male	26-35		North	9	Yes

I work from home and have access to reliable transportation, so I am flexible and willing to shift items to prioritize my role on this Taskforce.	Central Asian	F	26-35	West		2	Yes
I work at home (five minutes from downtown) so I'm available, or can make available, most any time the group wants to meet.	White	Male	56 and older	South		45	Yes
Tuesday, Wednesday , and Thursday are preferred I can make most times work, I would prefer after lunch	White	Male	56 and older	North		22	Yes

I am retired and usually available with proper advanced notice.	White	Male	56 and older	East		65	Yes
As a teacher, it would be better if meetings were after 5 pm.	White	Male	46-55		West	30	Yes
NA	White	M	46-55		East	52	Yes
I am blessed to have retired at age 52 when I moved here so I am completely open to any time or days.	White	Male	46-55	South		4	Yes

I am unavailable Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings from 5 to 9 pm. All other times are fine.	white	female	56 and older	West		20	Yes
M, W, F - anytime T, Th - after 5pm	White	M	36-45		East	7	Yes
I can work with any schedule as long as I know ahead a time.	White	Male	46-55		West	22	Yes
My schedule is open to either day or evening.	White	Female	46-55		North	48	Yes

Open Schedule	Caucasian	M	56 and older	North		38	Yes
Flexible to accomodate	White	Male	56 and older		North	60	Yes
If selected, participation in taskforce activities will be a primary priority.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	South		5	Yes
All.	White	Male	56 and older		East	17	Yes

I am retired and thus I can make the scheduled meetings.	White	Male	56 and older		North	24	Yes
Monday through Friday, 8 am until 6 pm.	White	Female	26-35		West	26	Yes
Preferably late morning or afternoons	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	North		40	Yes

no preference.	caucasian	female	56 and older		South	3	Yes
NA	White	Female	46-55		West	15	Yes
I am completely flexible until the fall semester starts on August 17. After that time, I will be available Tuesdays and Thursdays as well as in the late afternoons Wednesdays and Fridays.	White	Female	46-55		West	15	Yes

Mondays or Tuesday evenings would be ideal, but I will make any time and day work to be on the board.	White	Female	36-45		South	6	Yes
I would prefer meetings to be scheduled after 5pm on weekdays, however, my schedule is somewhat flexible and my employer is supportive of this effort. Thus, I should be able to consistently attend meetings regardless of the time they are scheduled.	White	Female	36-45	West		22	Yes
I am available any time of day or evening to meet.	Caucasian	Female	56 and older	West		19	Yes

After 5PM would be preferred, however I believe my workplace would be supportive if I needed to shift my work hours to accommodate for meetings during 9-5 work hours.	white	female	26-35	West		4	Yes
Lunchtime during the week, weekday evenings after 6 PM.	White (European ancestry)	Male	56 and older		East	20	Yes
I will be there whenever I'm wanted! (Free design services!!)	White	Male	56 and older	Central		34	Yes
I am available for anytime. Prefer afternoons to meet.	Cacusion	Male	56 and older		East	23	Yes

For all members, I would think evening would be the best for those who work. I am retired and can meet anytime.	White	Female	56 and older	South		71	Yes
	caucasian	female	56 and older		South	33	Yes
The only schedule conflict would be my responsibilities for the Perinatal Emotional Health Network, which are Thursdays at noon. This would have to take priority since it was a prior commitment and I am currently in the leadership position this year. Aside from Thursdays at noon, I am willing and able to adjust my schedule as needed to attend meetings.	White	Female	36-45		South	12	Yes

I am available any time on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and most evenings except Mondays and Fridays.	White	Female	36-45		West	5	Yes
Wednesdays and Thursdays, after 5pm Saturdays and Sundays, mornings	White	Female	26-35	West		9	Yes
Afternoons via Zoom, due to Covid-19.	Caucasian	Female	56 and older	North		60	Yes

I am retired, but do have a lot of busy days with ownership of properties, and of course, regular dental, etc., appointments and trips to attend meetings with a large Museum out of State. Otherwise, afternoons, before 5:00 pm, or evenings as convenient for your staff. I can adjust most of my schedule.	White	Female	56 and older		West	56	Yes
Im retired- so am flexible as to time of day	Caucasian	female	56 and older	North		4	Yes
Fridays, any time or any time after 6 pm on other week days	White	Male	26-35	West		9	Yes
Out of town between August 16 and August 19.	White	male	56 and older		West	3	Yes

My job allows for flexibility. My preference is evenings, but I would suggest meetings on Tuesday/Wednesd ays for approx 2 hours with set agendas and follow Roberts Rule of Order. This will keep the team on track. Then allow for the other days to do research, read regulations, attend focus groups or other meetings.	caucasian	male	56 and older		North	5	Yes
Any day of the week at anytime.	Mixed	Male	18-25	East		18	Yes
I am available seven days each week.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older		East	35	Yes
Any day works for me. The time that works best for me would be 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older		North	57	Yes

Given that I am retired, I am available any time of the day and any time of the week. I have a reputation for keeping my word and honoring my commitments.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older		North	4	Yes
I am very flexible and available	white	male	56 and older		North	6	Yes
My schedule is quite flexible as I own my own business which I operate from my home.	American Indian	Male	26-35	Central		7	Yes

My schedule is quite flexible as I own my own business which I operate from my home.	American Indian	Male	46-55	Central		7	Yes
I am available most evenings after 5pm and most weekends.	Caucasion	Male	36-45	South		30	Yes
Any works for me	White- American Indian	Gay Male	46-55	North	North	48	Yes
During the day would be best OR run no later than 6:30 PM Monday-Thursday.	White	Female	56 and older		North	17	Yes

I'm generally pretty flexible as a work from home consultant these days. I also am happy to quietly volunteer behind the scenes with no appointment, no pay, and no recognition. I'm not trying to be pretentious in listing bona fides, I'm trying to say I have a lot of experience and I authentically want to help and I don't care about public appointments. Perhaps there is someone being appointed who has never been on a board before and needs a mentor off to the side? I just want to help.	white	male	36-45		South	13	Yes
Morning or afternoon is good for meetings. I would prefer to avoid the 3rd Tuesday of each month, 1st Thursday of each month and the 2nd Friday of each month.	Caucasion	Frmale	56 and older	East		18	Yes

I am free all days and evenings.	White	F	56 and older		South	7	Yes
Im retired... I can make anything work	White	Male	56 and older	Central		12	Yes
In the current pandemic, everything is fluid. Currenty, I am available any time on Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday. I suspect with some prior notice, I may be able to make other times work. I have two small children and daycare facilities are currently closed.	White	Male	36-45		North	7	Yes

Evenings and weekends during the school year, otherwise any.	white	female	46-55		North	14	Yes
any	African American	Male	56 and older	West		66	Yes
I am retired so my time is open and I am available	White	Male	56 and older		North	54	Yes
I am available every day of the week from 8am- 9am or after 5pm.	White	Male	36-45		East	5	Yes

Weekday evenings at 6:00 or later would be the most ideal to ensure my consistent attendance. That said, I have been working for my current employer for 21 years and she is keenly aware of the importance of this project, and if the meetings had to be during the day, I am sure she would be willing to work with me so that I could attend these weekly meetings.	White/Caucasian	Male	46-55	West		23	Yes
Any day and time	White	Male	56 and older	West	West	3	Yes
No restrictions. I make my own schedule.	white (bad).	male (bad).	56 and older	South		3	Yes
I can accommodate any schedule as long as it does not include Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 9am until 11am	White	Male	36-45	West		6	Yes

flexible	african american	female	56 and older		West	15	Yes
I am self-employed & can set my schedule to meet the needs of the Taskforce.	white	non-bionary	36-45	West		16	Yes
After July 11 I am pretty open, since I am on summer break. But even after August 10 I have time.	white	male	56 and older	Central		26	Yes
I'm retired - prefer late mornings - afternoons or early evenings -	White	Male	56 and older	South		69	Yes
I am most easily available anytime after 3pm weekdays and flexible on weekends.	White	Male	36-45		North	20	Yes

I am availabe any day or time. [I will be out of state and not have means for a virtual interview from July 8 through July 13.]	Caucasion	Female	56 and older		North	44	Yes
	white/asian	female	26-35	Central		10	Yes
Right now, I am not employed (I was teaching as an adjunct professor at area colleges, but they have cut back severely on adjunct hiring due to COVID-19-related budget cuts), so my availabiliy is very flexible. If I am hired back to teach in the fall, I would need evening and/or weekend meetings.	white	female	46-55	West		2	Yes
Mondays through Thursdays evenings I am available after 4:30 pm & Fridays/Saturday my availability is open.	Black	Female	46-55	West		6	Yes

Preferably before 7pm.	White	Nonbinary	26-35	Central		1	Yes
Because I work from home, I can be extremely flexible, but in general, 11am- 4pm are my best times for meetings.	White	Female	26-35	West		11	Yes

My schedule is currently very flexible, so I should be able to meet whenever meetings are scheduled.	White	Male	56 and older	Central		18	Yes
Time management is important and I am available. Afternoon s or early evenings are preferred.	African-American	Male	56 and older	North		67	Yes

I am mostly retired, so my schedule is very flexible.	Caucasian	Female	56 and older	Central		42	Yes
Tuesdays or Thursdays will be best for me. I am happy to meet late in the afternoon or early evening and would consider other times that are convenient for the group.	White	Male	56 and older	West		59	Yes

Any day but Monday mornings & Sunday Morning Meetings starting at 8am- 10am ideal or afternoons ...if evening end by 10pm.	White	Female	56 and older	North		14	Yes
I have a flexible work schedule and could accommodate whatever schedule necessary.	white	female	26-35	Central		3	Yes
I am retired and can be flexible with meeting times.	White	Male	56 and older	Central		8	Yes

Weekdays after 5:00pm most preferably.	White	Male	36-45	West		7	Yes
I am available most weekdays after 4 pm.	White	Male	36-45	Central		11	Yes
After 4pm any day	Caucasion	Male	46-55	East		17	Yes

Self-employed and flexible schedule	White	Male	56 and older	Central		11	Yes
I'm available every day after 1 pm.	White/Spanish	Female	26-35	Central		5	Yes
I can be available anytime.	White	Male	26-35	Central		3	Yes
Pretty much open, prefer evenings	White	Male	56 and older	North		25	Yes

Any time or day.	Caucasian	Straight, cis male	56 and older	Central		4	Yes
I am retired so I have great flexibility. I would prefer morning or afternoon meetings if I have my druthers.	White/Caucasian	Male	56 and older	North		1	Yes
Generally, after 5pm is best for me.	Caucasian	Male	26-35	North		4	Yes
I have court hearings two or three days a month, but these are always in the morning and should be easy to schedule around.	Caucasian	M	56 and older	North		42	Yes

I can accommodate most any schedule	White	M	26-35	Central		10	Yes
Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday work best. I can also work around Wednesdays and Fridays if that is a problem for other task force members.	White	Female	56 and older	North		45	Yes
I believe that my current boss would be willing to work with me, and I should be able to attend meetings as they are scheduled as long as days and times are consistend from week to week.	Hispanic/White Biracial	Agender/Nongender	26-35	West		14	Yes
The best times for me would be Fridays any time, or Mon - Th after 5:00. But I am also willing and able to reschedule patients if needed.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	North		36	Yes

Currently, due to COVID and working in the entertainment industry, I am not working, so I am very flexible. Any job that I do obtain would likely be a "normal" 9-5pm job. I would be happy to meet in the evenings if that is a better fit for most committee members, but I prefer mornings on Tuesdays or Thursdays. Evenings can be any day of the week.	White	F	36-45	Central		4	Yes
Monday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Tuesday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Wednesday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Thursday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Friday 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM Saturday 10:00 AM - 10:00 PM Sunday unavailable	Caucasian	Male	46-55	Central		10	Yes

Evenings - 6:30 pm or later - Monday through Thursday. Or weekends.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	North		58	Yes
Since I work for myself, my schedule is flexible.	White	Female	46-55	South		50	Yes

I should be available every day of the week, but preferably in evening hours to accommodate for classes. Once my class schedule for the fall is decided I will have a more clear idea of this, but should I be accepted to this position I would make it a priority in my schedule.	White	Male	18-25	East		19	Yes
I am accommodating during Mon- Thursday 9AM - 8PM.	White	Femal	26-35	West		10	Yes
With enough notice I can accommodate meetings during the week day as well as in the evening and would be willing to attend events and meetings during the weekend. I do have a clinical schedule that would make Monday and Wednesday mornings not ideal for me.	White	Female	46-55	West		22	Yes

I make my own schedule and can be available anytime	white	male	56 and older	West		3	Yes
I am retired so this is not an issue.	white	male	56 and older	South		21	Yes
Available any time and any day.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	North		14	Yes

morning or late afternoon/evening meeting times are best for me. (8am - 10am or 4pm- 9pm). Most days I'm flexible, although Monday and Friday are usually less busy.	White	Male	36-45	North		18	Yes
I can flex	White	Male	56 and older	West		63	Yes
I can make myself available at any time any day.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	South		66	Yes

I work from home and have access to reliable transportation, so I am flexible and willing to shift items to prioritize my role on this taskforce.	Central Asian	F	26-35	West		2	Yes
Afternoons and evenings are best due to my teaching responsibilities.	Human	M	56 and older	South		34	Yes
Any	White	Male	26-35	Central		6	Yes
My schedule is fairly open since I'm retired.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	East		13	Yes
I will adjust my schedule to be able to attend the meetings, whenever they are held.	White	M	36-45	West		32	Yes
I am self employed and can work with the schedule of the task force.	White	Female	36-45	West		10	Yes

My schedule is very flexible and I will be happy to adjust as needed to make my participation possible.	White	Female	36-45	Central		3	Yes
Ideally Tuesday-Wednesday-Thursdays between 2-5:30 but I can be flexible.	White	Male	56 and older	North		44	Yes

Generally available.	white	Male	56 and older	North		20	Yes
I am retired so my schedule is flexible	white	male	56 and older	North		4	Yes

After 5pm or before 9am during the week, or anytime on weekends.	White	Male	26-35	North		7	Yes
As a relatively recent retiree my schedule is fairy open and adaptable.	Caucasian	Male	56 and older	South		23	Yes
	White	Male	56 and older	West		60	Yes
My schedule is very flexible and I can make almost any schedule work M-F 8am-5pm	Caucasian	Male	26-35	East		29	Yes

I can try my best to be available whenever needed.	White	Male	26-35	North		28	Yes
Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, or Sundays. Afternoons and evenings on any of those four days. This includes looking ahead to my academic schedule in the fall.	White	Female	18-25	North		3	Yes
Anytime.	Cherokee/German	F	56 and older	South		4	Yes

I have flexibility in my schedule with advanced planning. I will make myself available at a time that best maximizes the participation of the group. I recognize that I have more flexibility than most so I won't request restrictions on the scheduling meetings.	White	Female	46-55	West		13	Yes
I am available most days and times, and can work my schedule around meetings.	Asian/White	F	46-55	North		11	Yes

Very flexible availability - both days and evenings.	White	Female	36-45	Central		3	Yes
test	test	test	46-55	Central		3	Yes
I have full availability as I am out of work due to Covid-19.	White	Female (she/her)	18-25	North		1	Yes
Any week day in the evenings would be ideal. Anytime after 630. I can be flexible and am more then willing to take time off from work if I were to be appointed to this Taskforce.	white	female	36-45	West		2	Yes

I am retired and readily available at any day, time or place. Totally unencumbered.	African American	Male	56 and older	Central		53	Yes
Preferably not Fridays.	Caucasian	Female	56 and older	North		33	Yes
Any if online	White	F	26-35	West		10	Yes

It would be most effective if meetings are held after hours, after 5pm; to allow me to serve on the task force without having to ask for time away from work.	African Descendant	Female	46-55	South		50	Yes
Late afternoons and early evenings, 7 days a week.	European American (white)	Male	56 and older	West		20	Yes
I can be flexible with times and dates with advanced notice.	White	Male	46-55	Central		28	Yes

Mornings before 11 are best, but my schedule is somewhat flexible because I work by appointment. If I have the schedule in advance I should be able to attend meetings.	White	Woman	26-35	South		33	Yes
Any day or time but would prefer meetings not be held early mornings.	White	Female	56 and older	North		60	Yes
My schedule can be flexible to meet the needs of the group.	White	Male	46-55	North		20	Yes

Monday, Thursday, and Friday are best for me, but my schedule (retired) is very flexible. I would like to meet in the evenings but am available during the day as well. I do have the ability (based on current conditions) for remote meetings.	Caucasan	Male	56 and older	North		13	Yes
Open availability! :)	African-American/ Black	Female	56 and older	South		55	Yes
I am most available in the morning. Beginning on 8/17 I will be unavailable on Monday and Wednesday afternoon/evening s.	White	Male	26-35	Central		5	Yes
Mondays through Thursdays best	Caucasian	Femake	56 and older	North		67	Yes
Any meeting time or day of the week will work for me except if the meeting is in conflict with meeting of the Asheville City Schools Board of Education or our Montford North Star Academy PTO meetings which are generally the third Thursday of the month from 5:30 PM to 7 PM. I prefer meeting 9 AM or later in the day and completing meetings before 9 PM, but can attend all meeting held earlier or later if needed.	Latinx	Male	46-55	West		28	Yes

I am employed full time, work out of the house and have a large degree of control over my schedule. My employer encourages me to work in my community and they will allow me to participate without issue. Unless a personal emergency crops up, I will not have any difficulty attending meetings.	White	M	56 and older	North		15	Yes
As a retired person, I am flexible to accommodate the schedules of others.	White	Male	56 and older	East		71	Yes
	White	Female	36-45	Central		17	Yes

Weekday evenings and some weekends. If the Taskforce will meet virtually via internet spaces (Zoom et al), then regular weekday times could work as well. I'm probably more flexible than most currently.	White caucasian	Male	56 and older	West		36	Yes
Weekdays after 10:00 am till 8:00 pm. Preferably not on Friday.	White	Male	56 and older	North		34	Yes

I am retired, There are no particular days or times that at which I am less available than others.	White	Male	56 and older	South		30	Yes
This is important. I will make the meetings.	White	Male	46-55	South		15	Yes
I am free most weekdays after 5 and all day Fridays.	Caucasian	Male	46-55	West		6	Yes

M-F: 4pm-9pm Sat-Sun: 9am-6pm	White	Male	26-35	West		6	Yes
Monday - Friday. after 3 pm if in person. Anytime for remote/online meetings	Black	Female	46-55	Central		46	Yes

My schedule is flexible, but Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays are best.	Caucasian	Female	56 and older	North		23	Yes
I am retired and I am able to adjust my schedule to meet any day and time except on Wednesdays. On Wednesday mornings, I am available from 9:00 AM to 11:30 AM and Wednesday afternoons after 3:00 PM. whatever schedule you may have. I am committed to attending at least 99% of the scheduled meetings;	African American	Female	56 and older	Central		50	Yes

Weekday mornings, or weekends. I will be working for the U.S. Census from 2pm to 8pm, M-F, from July 14 till mid September.	White	Male	56 and older	West		26	Yes
My current work rotation leaves me available for daytime meetings on Fridays and Saturdays, or weekday evening meetings except Fridays.	White	Transgend er Woman	26-35	West		4	Yes

Am prepared to make it my priority and my work contribution to the public good. Roger Sharpe	White	Male	56 and older	Central		3	Yes
I work as a nurse and my schedule can be flexible. If the meetings are scheduled on a regular day at a regular time, I will be able to make my schedule work for the meetings.	Caucasian	Male	36-45	West		1	Yes
	Black	Female	46-55	North		5	Yes

Open	Filipinx	Female	26-35	Central		9	Yes
I am available at any time.	White	Male	46-55	North		51	Yes
Whichever days are best for the group. The best days and time for me are Thursday, Friday, Saturday and/or Sunday afternoons until 8:00 p.m.	White	Male	46-55	West		28	Yes
I am flexible.	white	male	56 and older	East		10	Yes