Application

Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) was created by joint resolution by the City of Asheville and Buncombe County. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments and participate in public dialogue.
The Task Force will consist of up to 12 members. 6 appointments to be made by the City Council and 6 appointments to be made by the County Commissioners. Applications for the City appointed seats will be accepted through July 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Task Force Scope as defined in Joint Resolution:

- Recommend removal and or repurposing of Vance Monument within legal requirements;
- Identify and recommend African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County

Member Expectations:

The first meeting of the Task Force will occur within the first two weeks of August. The Task Force will meet for approximately 3 months and then provide a final report or presentation to both Governing Boards.

Appointed members must be able to commit to:

- Attend at least 80% of the scheduled meetings; which may average one meeting per week
- Conduct research and activity between the meetings
- Actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report
- Maintain a connection and include other City & County Boards and Commissions

The Vance Monument Task Force will operate in accordance with North Carolina open meetings and public records laws. Information provided in this application, during meetings, all records, and communications are subject to NC public records law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Name*

[redacted]

Mailed

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

I want to help build a better more inclusive Asheville. An Asheville where all founding members dispite their race are celebrated.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

5 years of Community Organizing experience
A masters in Social Justice & Community Organizing
Additionally, I currently work for the YWCA of Asheville as their Racial Justice Advocate

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

The creation of a new monument designed and constructed with community input, that takes into account the diverse makeup of Asheville.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

My ability to work effectively with others to create strategic and timely change.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

Through my work with the YW and other local organizations, I have become very familiar with the current state of inequality within both Asheville and Buncombe County. Most concerning to me is that within incomes.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

No

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

I am available Mon-Fri after 5pm

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

African American / Black

Sex*

Female

Age*

- [x] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [ ] 36-45
- [ ] 46-55
- [ ] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [ ] Central
- [ ] North
- [x] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

1

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville

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- Recommend removal and or repurposing of Vance Monument within legal requirements;
- Identify and recommend African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County

Member Expectations:

The first meeting of the Task Force will occur within the first two weeks of August. The Task Force will meet for approximately 3 months and then provide a final report or presentation to both Governing Boards.

Appointed members must be able to commit to:

- Attend at least 80% of the scheduled meetings; which may average one meeting per week
- Conduct research and activity between the meetings
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Name*

[redacted]

emailed

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

As an Asheville native, I am emotionally connected to the city and believe I can provide valuable input to the future of this area of downtown. It is my opinion that these monuments serve little more than to hurt the African-American community in this town and visitors who come here. I'm super excited that we have finally come to a place of real action as opposed to good intentions and eloquent speeches. I have been working on design concepts for the space that can work with or without the existing stone structure in place. I realize that removal or re-purposing the Vance monument is just a start to bridging the race gap that has existed my whole life in Asheville. Without this action, it would be impossible to create meaningful change going forward.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

I would like to implement a way to not just honor one person or group of people, but be able to rotate the homage of great African-American artists and musicians by using electronic means if the budget allows. I have worked for Comtec as a home automation\audio system installer, worked at Moog Music (formerly Big Briar) as Production Manager and currently play music in town with several musicians.
I am now employed in Asheville as a Computer Programmer which may be of value if we have a dynamic solution such as video screens and audio installations. I have moderate carpentry and landscaping skills and would be willing to donate my time if needed to help in construction.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

The first goal is to start the healing of the divide between people of all colors in Asheville and the country. I would strive for a solution that not only honors African-American contributions to our society, but educates all of us to the great accomplishments of people of color. I truly think it can be done in a way that satisfies everyone, regardless of race and background. There are so many moving and important stories that go unnoticed in today's world despite the vast amount of social media networks. I want to make this ground a place of honor, education, beauty and fun. An interactive installation that brings people of all life paths together will be a good first step in uniting our community and making Asheville an icon of equity, progressive ideas and unity.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

My background in music, arts and computers should be valuable from a technical perspective regardless of the final solution for the space where the monument currently stands. Our citizens are the fabric of our community and I believe we could unite our incredibly vast collection of artists, craftspeople and musicians to make this a place where anyone can go to learn, be entertained and just have fun.

Also, I can assist in setting up websites or media pages for any purpose needed such as current installation info, scheduling and signing up for artist participation or volunteering.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

I have lived in Asheville for my entire life of 54 years and the separation of race in communities hasn't changed at all. If anything, it has worsened. There are very few areas where there are mixed races walking in the neighborhood or enjoying city parks. One example is the gentrification of Montford. What seemed like a mixed community before 2000 has dwindled away and the economic disparity appears to have widened. I also see infrastructure work done in Asheville in places that skirt the very communities that need it most. Data also shows that our African-American citizens not only get arrested more often, but once in the court system, are at a distinct disadvantage. Consequently, there is a disproportionate number of black people in jail and prison than white.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

None

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

I am flexible and can adjust my schedule around these meetings.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

White

Sex*

Male

Age*

- [ ] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [ ] 36-45
- [x] 46-55
- [ ] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [ ] Central
- [ ] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [x] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

54

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) was created by joint resolution by the City of Asheville and Buncombe County. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments and participate in public dialogue.
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Member Expectations:

The first meeting of the Task Force will occur within the first two weeks of August. The Task Force will meet for approximately 3 months and then provide a final report or presentation to both Governing Boards.

Appointed members must be able to commit to:

- Attend at least 80% of the scheduled meetings; which may average one meeting per week
- Conduct research and activity between the meetings
- Actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report
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Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

My interest is participating in assisting our community in Spike Lee's words, "Do the Right Thing." To render decisions contributing to a reckoning + awakening about 400 years of slavery. To listen to our Black community and take meaningful action with the Task Force mission while recognizing these issues are only a small part of the work.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

I have completed REI and Building Bridges. I am an original member of the Racial Justice Coalition and as a member worked with prior Chief Hooper in a two day session to arrive at a new use of police force policy. I practiced civil right law in Milwaukee for 40 years before retiring. I am active with Elders Fierce for Racial Justice advocating city action on the education race achievement gap.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

For the task force to make honest and informed decisions about the monument and honoring and presenting local Black history.
Of most importance a recognition that a decision about the monument is just one part of the race equity issues facing us - the continuing essential work immediately required

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

A commitment to listen to the pain,

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

Deep understanding from REI, Building Bridges and living here for past 11 years. Some understanding of reports from State of Black Asheville. Belief racial disparities in the community are extremely serious, ongoing, and addressed more in language than action, the city race achievement gap in education is the worse in over 110 schools districts in North Carolina. I have learned from social and racial justice activism for any entire adult life. And the very recent movement to start a reparations conversation moving forward.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

unaware of any conflicts,

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

Retired – considerable availability

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

white

Sex*

Male – he him

Age*

☐ 18-25 ☐ 26-35 ☐ 36-45 ☐ 46-55 ☒ 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

☒ Central
☐ North
☐ South
☐ East
☐ West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

11 – All 11 years downtown

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

☒ Yes
☐ No

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

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- Conduct research and activity between the meetings
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Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

I wish to see the perspective of historic preservation represented, and the importance of civic design and "place making" in our urban fabric and this key location, included in this important visioning process.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

Former Chair and Vice Chair of Downtown Commission, current President of Montford Neighborhood Association, founding member of Asheville Design Center, Head of Montford small area plan task force member, 28 year resident of Montford. Vice Chair of the Haywood-Page visioning task force. Father of two mixed-race boys who were raised through Asheville City Schools. Member of the Preservation Society of Asheville Buncombe County. Life long activist and rabble rouser for the environment (built and natural), injustice, and good government.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

A vision that moves toward racial healing, consensus, and includes a civic urban object/memorial/sculpture/marker that honors or speaks to all of our community. I hope the final vision prompts awareness of our complicated and racist history, and provokes conversations.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

Well, certainly not being an older white privileged male. As a practicing architect and experienced historic preservationist and builder, I understand the realities of civic design, construction, financing, and a methodical process of consensus building in a task force. I am a believer in tangible action, and disdain meetings for the sake of meetings. I am good at staying on task, and arriving at realistic solutions.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

Obviously, wealth and opportunity has been overtly and covertly controlled by white males throughout US history, and Asheville and Buncombe are no different. I fully acknowledge I have benefitted from a biased system and culture, and I am working toward sharing those benefits (A $65k loan to GO was a start). Watching my two mixed race boys go through Asheville public schools has been insightful, and a blessing, and allowed me to meet POC that I would not normally meet in my professional and social circles. I see obvious examples of under representation of POC in Design, construction, Real Estate, and have reached out to ACS to mentor POC interested in the design/construction field.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

none.

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

I am very flexible, I see no barriers to attendance.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

white

Sex*

male

Age*

- [ ] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [ ] 36-45
- [ ] 46-55
- [x] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [ ] Central
- [x] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

28

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

On June 9 and June 16, 2020, the Asheville City Council and Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, respectively, passed a joint resolution to remove two confederate statues located at the Buncombe County Courthouse and Pack Square Park, and to establish a jointly appointed task force to recommend action regarding the removal or repurposing of the Vance monument.

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) will consist of up to 12 members whose appointments will be made in equal numbers by the two governing boards. It is the intent of the governing boards of the City of Asheville and Buncombe County that the Vance monument be replaced or altered in such a manner, as to honor the local history of African-Americans. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments, participate in public dialogue, and will present the governing boards a final report of recommendation within three months of the completion of all membership appointments.

What to Expect
Due to the projected timeline, members may anticipate an average of one meeting per week, with research and activity between the meetings. Members will be asked to actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report. The initial focus of this task force will be to develop and present a final report regarding the future of the Vance Monument. The governing bodies may request additional activities within the scope of the resolution.

The Buncombe County application process will close on July 7, 2020, the Board will hold interviews the period of July 8 - 19, 2020, and will announce their appointees at the July 21, 2020, regular meeting. Click here to apply.

The Vance Monument Task Force will operate in accordance with North Carolina open meetings and public records laws. Information provided in this application, during meetings, all records, and communications are subject to NC public records law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number [redacted]

[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree to the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

To let my voice be heard by a local citizen that was born + Raise here in Asheville, NC Know the history of this City.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

I Served on the Board of the KRA in my community. I served on the commity of the ccb grassroots. I have work on the Neibror watch Force

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

That we can do what best for our City of all people, BTLG, Black, Brown and all people of the middle class. To speak on those that feel the way I do.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

To give in sight on how it effect people of color and what we should do with it

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

that Racism still exist and that the inequities of people of color in Asheville haven't change since the "70" "80". No black business No black leadership in State level

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not preclude appointments.)

No conflict of Interest

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

Wednesdays + Thursday Any time would be OK

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

Black American

Sex*

Male

Age*

☐ 18-25 ☐ 26-35 ☐ 36-45 ☐ 46-55 ☑ 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

☐ Central
☐ North
☒ South
☐ East
☐ West

Buncombe County / Non- City of Asheville:

☐ North
☐ South
☐ East
☐ West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

Born + Raised here all my life

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

☒ Yes
☐ No

I have no computer at home but I do try to go to the library to check my e-mails

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville

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Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

I believe that by listening, learning and standing in solidarity with the other members of this task force, many of whom I expect to be African-American, can show the community that a diverse group of people can come together and work to recognize the sins of history. Restoring honor to our city can only be done if who we choose to honor has left a legacy that we can ALL be proud of. If we are succesful in that, future generations will be proud of our work. As I fill this out, I do not know who else has applied and I am conscious of being a white male stepping into this role. But I do see a role for my background, connections and skill set here, but I promise to review the other applications and step aside if I think that will be better for the process. I think it is important to have a diverse task force, but I do NOT want to be taking the place of an African-American.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

City of Asheville Public Art and Cultural Commission, Asheville, NC (Commissioner, 2016-current)
City of Asheville Haywood-Page Advisory Team, Asheville, NC (Chair/Spokesperson, 2016-2017)
City of Asheville Downtown Commission (Vice Chair, 2018-current)
Public Space Management Committee of the City of Asheville Downtown Commission (Chair, 2019-current)
Nina Simone Project, Tryon, NC (Board Member, 2019-current)

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

I would like to bring finality to the debate around the monument, and in a way that moves constructively forward. I would like my community to honor that which is worthy of honor. Our outcome should be one that inspires unity and admiration. We must not foment the riotous ghosts of the past to stalk the present with division and hate. The symbols of a city and the policies they enact are intrinsically linked, and if we truly believe in a better future both must change. As Asheville City Council and the Buncombe County Commission have asked that this change come from the community via this task force, then we will have made great strides in the symbolic portion of change. I am not fooled that this will be adequate - it is merely the promise that more is on the way.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

Listening, and if need be, bridging divides. My work on the Haywood-Page Advisory Team brought unanimity to a previously highly charged and contentions item. Though the nature of this task is very different and deepy personal to many in our community, my ability to be part of difficult conversations that turn into clear, actionable steps is a skill required of many such task forces and no doubt this one as well. In addition, I have long been associated with the Nina Simone Project in my hometown of Tryon, where there now is a staute of Nina Simone near the center of town. It has recently been noted that it is the only public figurative sculpture of an African-American woman in North Carolina. It is a pride to that community, and honoring a similar figure in our community would be our pride as well.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

I know that decades of land-use decisions have deprived African-Americans of opportunities that white familes took for granted - and took from them. I know that the parking lot where the Asheville Police Department parks extra vehicles was taken from black ownership and was once a thriving business community. I know that to many white members of the community this seems long past, but my African-American neighbors are reminded daily. There isn't room here for all the examples of past iniquities that are the foundation to the present ones, and I could not possibly have a complete understanding of it myself - my lived experience has been white. But I know that for decades, African-Americans have been denied representation, access to equal education, and have been harassed by police, city planners and other institutions with deep histories of racism.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

None I am aware of.

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

I am currently widely available, though I will be a full-time student in the fall. My anticipated class schedule still leaves many available days and times.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

White

Sex*

Male

Age*

- [ ] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [x] 36-45
- [ ] 46-55
- [ ] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [x] Central
- [ ] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

13

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

On June 9 and June 16, 2020, the Asheville City Council and Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, respectively, passed a joint resolution to remove two confederate statues located at the Buncombe County Courthouse and Pack Square Park, and to establish a jointly appointed task force to recommend action regarding the removal or repurposing of the Vance monument.

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) will consist of up to 12 members whose appointments will be made in equal numbers by the two governing boards. It is the intent of the governing boards of the City of Asheville and Buncombe County that the Vance monument be replaced or altered in such a manner, as to honor the local history of African-Americans. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments, participate in public dialogue, and will present the governing boards a final report of recommendation within three months of the completion of all membership appointments.

What to Expect
Due to the projected timeline, members may anticipate an average of one meeting per week, with research and activity between the meetings. Members will be asked to actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report. The initial focus of this task force will be to develop and present a final report regarding the future of the Vance Monument. The governing bodies may request additional activities within the scope of the resolution.

The Buncombe County application process will close on July 7, 2020, the Board will hold interviews the period of July 8 - 19, 2020, and will announce their appointees at the July 21, 2020, regular meeting. Click here to apply.

The Vance Monument Task Force will operate in accordance with North Carolina open meetings and public records laws. Information provided in this application, during meetings, all records, and communications are subject to NC public records law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

#[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree to the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

I love Asheville. It's my village and I know that we can do better! I am very passionate about Asheville, but more specifically downtown as I was a pioneer owning a downtown business in the 90's (Enviro Depot) and served on the Downtown Development Task Force. Over 25 years later I still work and enjoy downtown. It is my home in it's warm and inclusive way - I am also inspired my Maya Angelou's quote "Do the best you can until you know better, then when you know better do better". I now know better, it's time to do better and I want to be part of a team that does this. Thanks for your consideration

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

Former Membership Director and Volunteer Coordinator at the Asheville Jewish Community Center, Active member of the Asheville Jewish Leadership Collaborative of WNC. Wanna Be Graduate of Building Bridges, but never had the opportunity to take the workshop. Active Real Estate Broker at Asheville Realty Group, Downtown Asheville.

Can't put myself in the position of Black Americans, but am continuously trying to understand and want to support positive change.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

Positive Pro-Active Change, Tolerance, Peace and Continuted Love for Asheville. I want the repurpose of this monument and all of Asheville to reflet these values. It really is what makes Asheville so special.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

My 25 years of community involvement and passion for Asheville.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

I believe I have addressed some of this in earlier responses. I know that I still have a lot to learn. No comparison, but when the JCC had terrible bomb threats, this community- OUR COMMUNITY of all races and cultures supported us in the most meaningful and beautiful ways. I will NEVER forget that, and I want to give back in some way.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not preclude appointments.)

Asheville Downtown Real Estate Broker - Sell Downtown Properties along with other areas of Asheville and surrounding communities.

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

I am very passionate and want to serve in the very best way I can. I will do my best to attend and work my schedule around so I can be part of this monumental effort. I would prefer any days except Monday mornings and Sundays.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

White

Sex*

Female

Age*

- [ ] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [ ] 36-45
- [x] 46-55
- [ ] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [ ] Central
- [x] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

Buncombe County / Non- City of Asheville:

- [ ] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

27 Years

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) was created by joint resolution by the City of Asheville and Buncombe County. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments and participate in public dialogue.
The Task Force will consist of up to 12 members. 6 appointments to be made by the City Council and 6 appointments to be made by the County Commissioners. Applications for the City appointed seats will be accepted through July 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Task Force Scope as defined in Joint Resolution:

- Recommend removal and or repurposing of Vance Monument within legal requirements;
- Identify and recommend African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County

Member Expectations:

The first meeting of the Task Force will occur within the first two weeks of August. The Task Force will meet for approximately 3 months and then provide a final report or presentation to both Governing Boards.

Appointed members must be able to commit to:

- Attend at least 80% of the scheduled meetings; which may average one meeting per week
- Conduct research and activity between the meetings
- Actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report
- Maintain a connection and include other City & County Boards and Commissions

The Vance Monument Task Force will operate in accordance with North Carolina open meetings and public records laws. Information provided in this application, during meetings, all records, and communications are subject to NC public records law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

#[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

Please see attached responses.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

Please see attached responses.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

Please see attached responses.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

Please see attached responses.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

Please see attached responses.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

No, none.

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

I have a flexible work schedule and can be available any day or time of day. In general evenings are better however.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

White

Sex*

Female

Age*

- [ ] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [ ] 36-45
- [x] 46-55
- [ ] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [x] Central
- [ ] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

24

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Vance Monument Task Force Application: [redacted]

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

Asheville is my home, and Pack Square is one of the most visible focal points and gathering spaces in this community I love dearly. I have lived in Asheville for nearly a quarter century and am a descendent of the Vance family. Symbols in our public squares must represent the shared values of our community. The Vance monument does not currently do this, and indeed the obelisk's presence perpetuates harm. The work of this Taskforce, along with other steps taken to address systemic and institutional racism in our community, is among the most important work I have witnessed in my lifetime. I am interested in serving because I am committed to the vision and process outlined for the Taskforce, which I believe, if done well, will create a more equitable, just, and vibrant Asheville and Buncombe County. As a descendant of the Vance family, who is also committed to the work of reparations, I am uniquely positioned to use my ancestral power and privilege to contribute to this work.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

Colonel David Vance, Sr. and Priscilla Brank Vance were my 5th great grandparents. They had seven children. One of their sons, David Vance, Jr., was the father of Zebulon Vance. Their eldest daughter, Jane Vance Davidson, was my 4th great grandmother. As a direct descendant of a family who enslaved people for at least four generations, I am engaged in the ongoing process of acknowledging the trauma, violence, and brutality of slavery. As a member of the Taskforce, I can (and will) articulate the many ways I have been and continue to be impacted by the Vance family legacy and the presence of the monument, including ancestral wealth, safety, and freedom at the expense of others. I continue to reckon with both the positive and negative impacts I have experienced. Removing or repurposing the Vance monument does not erase my family's legacy, but it does represent a small step toward repairing that family legacy.

As a licensed clinical social worker I understand and acknowledge the devastating impact of trauma, including the reality of transgenerational or epigenetic trauma as well as the harm of repetitive exposure to trauma triggers. In my work as a mental health professional and community organizer I have witnessed the healing power of sharing and hearing one another's stories. I am skilled at creating space and facilitating conversation and deep listening, especially across systemic barriers such as race, age, and life experience.

I have experience developing authentic relationships in many different contexts in this community. I was an active parent volunteer throughout the combined 15 years my two children attended Asheville City Schools. I was a soccer, band, and theatre mom. I have been deeply engaged in the service and ministry of two different faith communities in Asheville. I have volunteered for more local political and get out the vote campaigns than I can count, talking with residents in every neighborhood in Asheville. For the last 8 years I have lived in an increasingly gentrified, but still largely integrated neighborhood in Kenilworth. As much as it is possible to use the phrase "the Asheville community" to describe a single entity, I know the Asheville community and the Asheville community knows, and I believe, trusts me.

I continue to strive to understand and commit to do my part to dismantle systemic, institutional, and personal racism. I participate in local organizations committed to anti-racism and racial equity, including Building Bridges, Racial Equity Institute, the Keep it Moving White Caucus, Racial Justice Coalition of Asheville, the YWCA, Faith for Justice, Western North Carolina Citizens Ending Institutional Bigotry, and Coming to the Table. I have also supported and participated in other groups committed to the intersectional work of justice not exclusively focused on racism, including Campaign for Southern Equality, Tranzmission, BeLoved Asheville, and Just Economics.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

While my ancestry offers me a unique position to advocate for the future of the Vance monument; it is my hope that, as a member of the Taskforce, I can be part of a decision making process that hears all voices

in the community and yet *centers* the voices and needs of Black residents who are most negatively impacted by the monument and the ideology and values it represents. The Taskforce itself will be a microcosm of the community, and both Taskforce and community must acknowledge harm before any recommendations can be made to address and repair that harm. If that is achieved, the potential for healing will extend beyond the 90 days of the Taskforce's existence. The achievements of this Taskforce will pave the way for other endeavors such as the Buncombe Community Remembrance Project and other restorative, reparative and transformative community conversations. Personally, I hope to continue my own reckoning with my family's participation in slavery and seek ways to engage in repair. This is not something to "achieve", however, and I will do this whether or not I am selected to serve on the Taskforce

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?

I will contribute an understanding of harm, accountability, and repair stemming from my study and practice of restorative and transformative justice, which I believe is at the heart of the work of Taskforce. Along with this, I am committed to seeing beyond the limits of binary thinking, particularly with regard to one's humanity. People from the past and people today are neither good nor bad. My ancestors committed terrible atrocities and made horrific statements against Black people. Naming this violent behavior can exist in the context of naming the good my ancestors accomplished as well. To move our community forward will require navigating this tension. I also neither seek nor avoid conflict, but I am willing to engage in hard conversations and offer support to those who do the same.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?

In addition to all I have learned and continue to understand through my involvement with the groups I listed above when discussing my qualifications and experiences, I am familiar with the research and findings of the State of Black Asheville. This somewhat academic understanding has and continues to be brought to life by three personal experiences: First, as the mother of two white children who began their Asheville City Schools experience at Isaac Dickson with well-integrated classrooms and several Black teachers who then went on to graduate from Asheville High, where each year college track and AP classes became increasingly and nearly exclusively all white with regard to students and teachers. My family's experience supports the data which puts Asheville City Schools at the top of the list in NC for the greatest achievement gap between Black and white students.

Second, I am reminded daily of racial inequities in my Kenilworth neighborhood, which clearly illustrate why Asheville has been named the second most gentrified city in the country. My Black neighbors across the street live in public housing and my white neighbors behind my house live in newly built homes valued at more than $500,000. Since buying my home 8 years ago, two of the three modest homes adjacent to mine have been purchased by white people following the deaths of elderly long time Black residents. My remaining Black neighbors struggle to pay property taxes that recently increased dramatically. Sadly, I predict within ten years, the only sign of historical "Black Kenilworth" will be St. John A Baptist Church and the South Asheville Cemetery at the end of my street.

Lastly, my work over the last 15 years in our criminal justice system provides constant reminders of racial inequity in our community and beyond. My particular work focuses on the death penalty. In addition to trial work, where in NC people who kill white people are 3.5 times more likely to receive a death sentence than people who kill Black people, I've had the honor of working with post-conviction defense teams that negotiated life sentences for two Black men from Asheville who were sentenced to death by all white juries. While all white juries are hopefully a relic from the past, I continue to witness racial inequities in policing, and in our court rooms, jail, and prisons. And most importantly, I have a deep understanding of how my first example and my last are intimately connected with the often used phrase "school to prison pipeline", which continues to be one of the most damaging racial inequities in our community.

[redacted] [redacted]

Application Form

Question Group

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) was created by joint resolution by the City of Asheville and Buncombe County. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments and participate in public dialogue.

The Task Force will consist of up to 12 members. 6 appointments to be made by the City Council and 6 appointments to be made by the County Commissioners. Applications for the City appointed seats will be accepted through July 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Task Force Scope as defined in Joint Resolution:

- Recommend removal and or repurposing of Vance Monument within legal requirements;
- Identify and recommend African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County

Member Expectations:

The first meeting of the Task Force will occur within the first two weeks of August. The Task Force will meet for approximately 3 months and then provide a final report or presentation to both Governing Boards. Appointed members must be able to commit to:

- Attend at least 80% of the scheduled meetings; which may average one meeting per week
- Conduct research and activity between the meetings
- Actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report
- Maintain a connection and include other City & County Boards and Commissions

The deadline for City applications for these openings is Friday, July 10, 2020 at 5 p.m.

The Vance Monument Task Force will operate in accordance with North Carolina open meetings and public records laws. Information provided in this application, during meetings, all records, and communications are subject to NC public records law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

[redacted]

[redacted] [redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

Yes

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

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.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

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 would be that I have sat on the board of Just Economics WNC for 6 years, (was Board Chair and Exo-Officio in 2017 & 2108) and am very proficient at running meetings, and seving in committees. I am of mixed race heritage, being half Asian, half White, and I am involved in aspects of Asheville's POC community. I do consider myself to be more logical in my nature, rather than overly reactionary.I am originally from the west coast, and my parents were professional educators, (with my father holding a masters degree in history education) so I was steeped in historical knowledge and have actually been to every single Civil War battlefield. I actually posses quite a bit of knowledge about the Civil War and Reconstruction, so this topic is quite fascinating to me. I do feel like I would be an asset to this Taskforce because of my unique qualifications.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to 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.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

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.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

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.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

I have no conflicts of interest that I am aware of.

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

I am available most days and times, and can work my schedule around meetings.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

Asian/White

Sex*

F

Age*

46-55

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:*

North

[redacted] [redacted]

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

11

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

Yes

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - Buncombe County

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

On June 9 and June 16, 2020, the Asheville City Council and Buncombe County Board of Commissioners, respectively, passed a joint resolution to remove two confederate statues located at the Buncombe County Courthouse and Pack Square Park, and to establish a jointly appointed task force to recommend action regarding the removal or repurposing of the Vance monument.

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) will consist of up to 12 members whose appointments will be made in equal numbers by the two governing boards. It is the intent of the governing boards of the City of Asheville and Buncombe County that the Vance monument be replaced or altered in such a manner, as to honor the local history of African-Americans. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments, participate in public dialogue, and will present the governing boards a final report of recommendation within three months of the completion of all membership appointments.

What to Expect
Due to the projected timeline, members may anticipate an average of one meeting per week, with research and activity between the meetings. Members will be asked to actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report. The initial focus of this task force will be to develop and present a final report regarding the future of the Vance Monument. The governing bodies may request additional activities within the scope of the resolution.

The Buncombe County application process will close on July 7, 2020, the Board will hold interviews the period of July 8 - 19, 2020, and will announce their appointees at the July 21, 2020, regular meeting. Click here to apply.

The Vance Monument Task Force will operate in accordance with North Carolina open meetings and public records laws. Information provided in this application, during meetings, all records, and communications are subject to NC public records law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree to the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

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.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

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 Defense Overseas Schools my main work as an educator was this concept in n international setting.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

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

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

My life long career in human relations including race relations and international relations. To be supportive in accepting the value of all persons and of their opinions.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

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.

The Latino population in the county is higher than that in the city. Likewise the county has a greater student population requiring

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not preclude appointments.)

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 congregations of Grace Covenant Presbyterian Church.
Likewise, through my wife's family in Dillingham, NC I have relatives and friends. 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 overview of this region with an emphasis on the Eastern Band of he Cherokee Nation. I do many lectures from the book.

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

Preferably late morning or afternoons.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

Caucasian by birth...as an Afro-American parent once stated:"You have the heart of a black pers

Sex*

Male

Age*

- [ ] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [ ] 36-45
- [ ] 46-55
- [x] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [ ] Central
- [x] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

Buncombe County / Non- City of Asheville:

- [ ] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

Since 1980, however summ

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Application

Vance Monument Task Force - City of Asheville

ⓘ Fields with an asterisk (*) are required.

The Vance Monument Task Force (VMTF) was created by joint resolution by the City of Asheville and Buncombe County. The VMTF will be tasked with gathering citizen input, particularly from those most impacted by the monuments and participate in public dialogue.
The Task Force will consist of up to 12 members. 6 appointments to be made by the City Council and 6 appointments to be made by the County Commissioners. Applications for the City appointed seats will be accepted through July 10 at 5:00 p.m.

Task Force Scope as defined in Joint Resolution:

- Recommend removal and or repurposing of Vance Monument within legal requirements;
- Identify and recommend African Americans to honor the local history of Asheville - Buncombe County

Member Expectations:

The first meeting of the Task Force will occur within the first two weeks of August. The Task Force will meet for approximately 3 months and then provide a final report or presentation to both Governing Boards.

Appointed members must be able to commit to:

- Attend at least 80% of the scheduled meetings; which may average one meeting per week
- Conduct research and activity between the meetings
- Actively participate in planning, gathering data and input, evaluation of facts and alternatives, and reach consensus on the final content for the report
- Maintain a connection and include other City & County Boards and Commissions

The Vance Monument Task Force will operate in accordance with North Carolina open meetings and public records laws. Information provided in this application, during meetings, all records, and communications are subject to NC public records law and may be disclosed to third parties.

Name*

[redacted]

Email Address*

[redacted]

Phone Number*

#[redacted]

Agreement*

Do you agree with the call to remove and/or repurpose the Vance monument as expeditiously as possible due to the harm it poses, and to replace it with monument(s) that honor local African-American history and are created by African-American artists?

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No

Why are you interested in serving on this Taskforce?*

I am interested in participating in the process of recommending a reasonable solution to the issue of the Vance Monument.

List any special qualifications and or experiences you have for service on this Taskforce.*

I have been a City resident since 1972. I worked for the Asheville Housing Authority for 25 years administering the the Asheville urban renewal and community development programs. I served as Deputy Executive Director from 1976 -1997. I have served on several City, County and State committees, joint committees and ad hoc committees over the years. I have been a downtown property owner on Haywood Street since 1995 and a downtown resident since 2007. I walk by the Vance Monument with my dog at least twice a day as part of my exercise program. A resume' is available on request.

What would you like to achieve if appointed to this Taskforce?*

Assist in developing a recommendation for the future of the Vance Monument that will address as many concerns and issues of all residents of the City and County as possible.

What do you think will be your best contribution to the Taskforce?*

Experience in working with community issues and concerns and personal knowledge and relationships with many community leaders.

What is your understanding of current racial inequities in Asheville and Buncombe County?*

The primary inequity, in my opinion, is economic. This impacts housing, education, job opportunities and health issues. Education is the long term solution and must be valued and supported.

Conflict of Interest*

Are you aware of any potential conflicts of interest that exist or may arise during your service on the taskforce (i.e., property interest, business interest, etc.)? If so, please explain:

(Potential conflicts of interest will be evaluated individually and may not prevent appointments.)

No

Availability (this question is optional)

What days and time of day should meetings be scheduled to ensure your consistent attendance if appointed?

Being retired, early morning meetings are not desirable but possible. Establishing specific days and times in advance would avoid conflicts in making other plans and commitments.

For the purpose of diversity and balance, please complete the following:

Race*

white

Sex*

male

Age*

- [ ] 18-25
- [ ] 26-35
- [ ] 36-45
- [ ] 46-55
- [x] 56 and older

Buncombe County or Asheville residency is required for appointment

I am a resident from the:

City of Asheville:

- [x] Central
- [ ] North
- [ ] South
- [ ] East
- [ ] West

How many years have you been a resident of Asheville or Buncombe County?*

48

Do you have internet/broadband access and device to participate?*

Your answer to this question does not impact your eligibility for this taskforce.

- [x] Yes
- [ ] No