


Agenda Report Reviewed by:  
 City Manager: 

**CITY OF SEBASTOPOL  
 CITY COUNCIL  
 AGENDA ITEM**

**Meeting Date:** May 4, 2021  
**To:** Honorable Mayor and City Councilmembers  
**From:** Sebastopol Living Peace Wall Selection Committee and  
 Kari Svanstrom, Planning Director  
**Subject:** Approval of Annual Peace Wall Honorees  
**Recommendation :** Accept Nominations  
**Funding:** Currently Budgeted: \_\_\_\_\_ Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No  N/A  
 Net General Fund Cost: N/A  
 Amount: \$0

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

**INTRODUCTION/PURPOSE:**

The item tonight is for Council acceptance of the Annual Peace Wall Honorees.

**BACKGROUND:**

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

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

**DISCUSSION:**

The Sebastopol Living Peace Wall Selection Committee was convened on February 10, 2021. The committee members present were: Michael Gillotti, Chairman, Richard Retecki, Vice Chairman, Paul Robbins from the Redwood Friends group, Rev. Judith Stone, Ret., and Alice Waco from the Sonoma County Peace and Justice Center. After a thorough review and discussion of the nominees, the following four persons were selected to be honored for the year 2021:

- Fred Ptucha
- Adrienne Lauby
- Mary Moore
- Congresswoman Barbara Lee

Upon Council approval their names will be inscribed onto the Living Peace Wall and added to the roll of honorees on the Peace Wall website, [www.sebastopolivingpeacewall.com](http://www.sebastopolivingpeacewall.com). The attached submittal provides information about each proposed honoree.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

As of the writing of this staff report, the City has not received any public comment. However, staff anticipates receiving public comment from interested parties following the publication and distribution of this staff report.

Such comments will be provided to the City Council as supplemental materials before or at the meeting. In addition, public comments may be offered during the "Public Comment" portion of the City Council discussion.

**PUBLIC NOTICE:**

This item was noticed in accordance with the Ralph M. Brown Act and was available for public viewing and review at least 72 hours prior to schedule meeting date.

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

There is no financial impact associated with this item tonight.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

That the Council accept the Annual Peace Wall Honorees.

**ATTACHMENTS:**

Proposed Peace Wall Honorees

## 2021 PEACE WALL NOMINEES - BIOGRAPHIES

### 1. FRED PTUCHA

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

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

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

### 2. ADRIENNE LAUBY

A lifelong peace activist, in recent years she has focused on the issue of homelessness and disability rights. She co-produces "Pushing Limits", a radio program about disabilities on KPFA in Berkeley and works with "Homeless Action" a Sonoma County advocacy group of people with disabilities, religious congregants, homeless people, service providers and caring individuals.

In addition, she organizes regular public dialogs on racism as part of the organizing committee of Sonoma County Racial Justice Allies.

### 3. MARY MOORE

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

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

### 4. CONGRESSWOMAN BARBARA LEE

Barbara was first elected to the State Assembly in 1990 and later became the first African American woman elected to the State Senate from Northern California. While there, she authored and passed the first California Violence Against Women Act and served as a member of the California Commission on the Status of Women.

In 1998 she was elected to the House of Representatives for the East Bay 13<sup>th</sup> District, where she has become a leading voice for global peace and security. She has worked to reduce conflict, end wars, advance human rights and served as a representative to the 68<sup>th</sup> and 70<sup>th</sup> United Nations General Assemblies.

Following the horrific events on September 11<sup>th</sup>, Congresswoman Lee cast the lone vote against the overly broad authorization for the use of military force (AUMF). In the years since, this (AUMF) has become a blank check for

endless war and has been used to justify military actions in more than 30 countries without Congressional oversight.