

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

January 14, 2008

Present: Patti Cameron, Len Pardue, Dave Scherk, Dorothy Schmid, Denise Snodgrass, Joyce Weinberg, Doug Williams (Chair).

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Chair Doug Williams.

The minutes of the December 17, 2007 meeting were approved.

There was discussion, continued from the previous meeting, of a proposal for a volunteer fair that would be held at the Reuter Center and would be open to NCCCR members, UNCA undergraduates, and the Asheville area community. The purpose of the fair would be to educate the community, UNCA, and NCCCR of the various opportunities in Buncombe County for service learning (volunteering). A related purpose would be to strengthen partnerships between NCCCR and non-profit organizations. LTOP, for example, seeks support from volunteer organizations, and the fair would be an opportunity for NCCCR to “return the favor.” In addition, the fair could be a project for LTOP participants, which would strengthen their involvement in the Center and connection to the campus. Patti Cameron led the Committee through a revised proposal, including a draft invitation letter to organizations and agencies and a survey form for NCCCR members.

Discussion focused on timing and the target audience. A good date for planning purposes seemed to be September during the week just before classes start, subject to the results of a survey of NCCCR members. The target audience would be primarily NCCCR members, but would also include UNCA undergraduates and the broader community (including, for example, home schooled students). The draft form of survey was revised to elicit information regarding whether members would attend a fair, when it should occur, what kinds of volunteer opportunities they would be interested in, and what information from organizations and agencies would be most useful. There was also discussion of whether to charge a fee to the participating organizations and agencies to cover staff time, advertising, and food or beverages, if any.

The Committee decided that the next step is to propose the volunteer fair to the Center Steering Council and to seek its approval for the member survey.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm