

COMMUNITY EDUCATION COMMITTEE MINUTES

June 15, 2009

Present: Dan Gerber, Bonnie Habel, Mike Honeycutt, Jacque Morgan, Michelle Rogers, Dave Sherck, Cissie Stevens, Roy Turnbaugh, Becky Welch, Doug Williams (Chair).

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

The minutes of the May 18, 2009 meeting were approved.

Doug Williams introduced Jacque Morgan as the incoming Chair of the Committee for the academic year July 2009 to June 2010.

Mike Honeycutt reported on the Smith Barney Intergenerational Computer Mentoring Program. Classes were last held in the fall of 2008, with approximately thirty students and ten UNCA undergraduate teachers. The students and teachers were recruited by Patti Cameron before she left her position at the Reuter Center. Cissie Stevens suggested that the classes next be offered in the spring of 2010 and that, in the meantime, the Committee and staff should consider how to present the program most cost-effectively. Because some funds remain from the Smith Barney grant, we may need to discuss with Smith Barney any changes that are inconsistent with the terms of the grant. Jacque Morgan wants to use members of the Reuter Center as volunteer mentors the next time the classes are offered. Roy Turnbaugh suggested partnering with Charlotte Street Computers to be able to offer class participants access to donated computers. Michelle Rogers said she gets inquiries from members and non-members about the program and suggested putting a notice in the fall catalog that classes would not be offered in the fall and that the program is being reassessed for future presentation.

Michelle Rogers reported that 34 of 35 places have been filled for the fall 2009 Leadership Asheville Seniors class. Teams have been organized and met for all nine sessions. A combination of a service learning project and a graduation ceremony will be the ninth session this year.

Jacque Morgan noted that the responsibility for oversight of Reuter Center workshops may be moved from the College for Seniors Committee to this Committee. Part of the rationale for workshops has been to use the Center's facilities at non-peak times, such as evenings and weekends, and to attract both members and non-members and those who work during the week. Workshop instructors generally are paid, and workshops need to be financially self-sufficient. A few workshops, including those related to photography, have been consistently successful, but others have not. Successful workshops need staff support for marketing, enrollment, and the hiring and paying of teachers.

Doug Williams reported that he and a few other members of the advisory team that has assisted the past directors of the Blue Ridge Naturalist program are engaged in finding a new home for the program, possibly at the North Carolina Arboretum. If they are

successful, it may be helpful to be able to offer BRN classes at the Reuter Center on weekends, when the Arboretum is busiest and the Center is under-utilized. Cissie Stevens was very receptive to this possibility.

Doug Williams asked each member to begin thinking about goals and objectives for the Committee for the coming year.

Jacque Morgan discussed future meeting times with the Committee. It appeared to be best to continue meeting on the second Monday of the month at 2:00 p.m. There will be no meeting in July. The next meeting will be in August. Jacque will set the schedule with Leanna Preston and let the Committee know.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Doug Williams, Chair