

Minutes of the Community Education Committee meeting, July 13, 2006 Compiled by Len Pardue
Meeting attendance: Unavailable

Meeting focus: Leadership Training for Older Persons. Patti Cameron, LTOP director, briefed the committee on the forthcoming 6- week term and its challenges. She expected 22 participants (25 slots were available). Funds to support the program come from grants. No tuition is charged. The focus will be on helping participants develop practical skills and gain confidence to advocate for neighborhoods. Once a week sessions are held lasting most of a day. Service projects and activities are expected of participants, and Patti plans to do one-on-one meetings with participants to discuss service- project possibilities. The program has been operated in its brief tenure on an every-other-year basis. Obstacles to doing the program annually are financing, recruiting a full class, putting good programs together and finding a mentor for each participant. Questions of Patti included a query about how the program's outcomes are monitored. Possibilities included exit interviews with LTOP participants, and encouraging them to develop longer-term ties with the program, by providing opportunities for grads to be involved.

Other matters: Denise said we needed as a committee to look for ways to hold up the Leadership Asheville Seniors and Blue Ridge Naturalist programs. She urged us to find means of educating the larger community about the programs and to do a better job of telling our story.