

Minutes of Nov. 8, 2006 meeting of the Community Education Committee

1. Major milestones achieved: None to report

2 - 5: Issues with ripples; issues needing help; concerns & congrats.

A. LTOP -- Patti Cameron reported on Leadership Training for Older Persons' successful program just wrapping up. Participants were still identifying service projects to undertake. They seemed inclined to widen the scope of their projects beyond service to older persons. One idea discussed was to work on grocery-store access issues for disabled persons. More discussion of the focus issue seemed likely at the December potluck celebration of the end of this LTOP term.

CE committee members wondered if developing a mission statement for LTOP might prove helpful. More interaction between Leadership Asheville Seniors and LTOP was also suggested.

B. Blue Ridge Naturalist -- Jeannie Martin told the committee that she would be leaving the job of the program's coordinator as of Dec. 20. She hopes to continue being involved, as coordinator of the Sense of Place class and is willing to serve in a support role for 10 hours a week in January & February. She said she needed to find time in her life for other activities. She said that the BRN coordinator needs to be a 30-hour a week job with benefits and that teachers' wages need to be increased, to the level of \$25 an hour to \$30 an hour. [A handout of recommendations she made will be added to these minutes.] She also said attention should be given to how the BRN program relates to the Reuter Center's mission.

She said the program had grown significantly -- from 25 "course seats" in the fall of '05 to 249 "course seats" this fall, and had developed a good cadre of teachers.

The committee thanked Jeannie for her service and good work.

Meeting attendance: Unavailable

Compiled by Len Pardue