

August 28, 2006

Dependent Care-Elder and Disabled

8pm

I. Denise Lewis (chair) opened the meeting with a recap from meetings past and a little direction for the next phase of the process. There were several first-time attendees.

II. Feedback from Document:

A. What is not clear/missing?

➤ Question from first-time attendee: Is there funding?

Denise's Answer: If we can come up with good/creative recommendations, we can find funding. "creative" example would be: "time-dollars" where people share services. For example, someone mows the grass for someone else in exchange for borrowing a car. (bartering system)

➤ Question (from first-time attendee): Are the findings in the Report conclusive? Are these the major needs?

Answer: Yes—this is what the community said most frequently/strongly.

➤ Suggestions by first-time attendee: We need to learn what is already existing so as not to duplicate. We should do outreach to doctor's offices, bingo halls, church groups (places elders frequent) so as to make known what is available.

➤ "Availability" of sources seems to be a theme in the document.

➤ Zoning restrictions. Athens is hurting its own citizens trying to keep the students out. This zoning law originated to curtail a lot of activities—but actually the zoning laws didn't really do what they were created to do.

➤ Seems like there are underlying tensions between the university and Athens-CC

III. Group's decision for focus:

A. There are not enough affordable, quality resources available

B. Refer # 3 to the housing committee

C. Creating a way to address affordability and availability

1. Present "time-share" idea to steering committee

- Person can contribute own services in an area they are equipped, to receive services they need

- Barter system would not be free, but a good investment that would engage MANY people

2. Explore ways to expand existing programs without a lot of money. How can agencies help each other? (sharing buildings, vans,...)

3. Running list of things student's can do that are meaningful. Establish a better linkable between students and community

4. Community Connection is developing a calendar for the community of things going on in which people can help (volunteering calendar)

5. "Hands on Georgia" week coming up in September
 6. Seems like lots of duplication of services, need more unification/clearing house
 7. Aging/DD community don't work together very well (sometimes they don't want to)
- IV. There was a question about how these findings were the ones chosen, and Denise explained the process in detail
- V. The group took time to complete the "developing recommendations" worksheet