

## Smith: Black Groups Get Passed Over for Funding

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toward the end of the meeting and told Easley the government could do more by funding programs specifically designed to help black youths. She also criticized government for giving funds to organizations headed by whites that purportedly helps black youths.

"Everyone is talking about how good things are, but all is not well. If it were, we wouldn't be having our highest crime rate this year," Smith said. "We have to deal with special populations to reduce crime."

Smith said doing "business as usual" doesn't work because it means predominantly black groups will not be helped with funding.

Northeast Ward Alderman Vivian Burke, who organized and presided over the meeting, agreed that agencies should pay attention to special needs of segments of the community when issuing funds.

"We talk a good talk about what poor folks ought to be doing, but we need to put some money in the community to make the programs work," Burke said. "People work with them who they can't relate to.... It's no disrespect to whites, but mostly you find other people (whites) running programs that all of us (blacks) are in."

Henry M. Carter Jr., president of the Winston-Salem Foundation,

said the foundation gives substantially to programs that affect minorities.

"You will find that a preponderance of grants have went to programs for black youths," Carter said. "It's hard to find an African-American organization or an organization that serves predominantly African-Americans that we haven't supported one way or another over the years."

According to the foundation's annual report, in 1993 nearly \$340,000 was given to black-headed

groups or groups that serve a good number of blacks. More than \$297,000 of the funds were given to non-black-headed groups, such as the Greater Winston-Salem Chamber of Commerce (\$100,000), city-county school system (\$96,000) and Salvation Army Girls Club (\$25,000).

On the other hand, the foundation gave only \$30,000 to black-run organizations such as Black Men and Women Against Crime (\$1,700), Skyline Village Tenants Association (\$4,000) and Happy

Hill Gardens (\$5,000).

Carter added that the foundation consistently contributes to the Urban League and the Best Choice Center and that it made its largest single contribution of \$250,000 to Winston-Salem State University's capital campaign fund.

"Some of the groups are black and whites together, but they serve the African-American community," he said. "We have supported black groups and we will continue to do so as we see the money available at that particular time."

Easley said he wanted to listen to possible solutions to stop crime and thought Winston-Salem was doing a good job. However, Easley said he didn't want to be seen as the "top cop" and he wants to implement and support more programs designed to prevent crime.

"People need to understand that government's role is limited. We often pick up after the crime has already been committed," Easley said. "What we want to do is prevent more of them from happening so we don't have our jails over-

crowded."

Smith said one sure way to offset crime is by supporting groups that deal with a specific segment of the community. She urged more financial support for black-run groups in particular, in order to help the crisis among black youths.

"We can't continue to fund traditional groups that's not working," Smith said. "More money should be put into groups serving a special need. If we do that, I think then we could wipe out the violence."

## Sold-out

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"They didn't teach it the right way," Jessup said. "It was really the cause of all the problems in the movie."

Laura Walters, a white student at Mt. Tabor, enjoyed the movie and thought that all races should have the opportunity to see it.

"It's not a black or a white religion, it's for anyone," she said. "I don't think the movie is just for blacks. I think everyone should see it."

All of the students said they want to see it again because it made them analyze their own lives and sparked an interest in returning to the past. The students had a lot of unanswered questions about the movie, but may get a chance to see it again soon.

Barbara Wigron, manager of North Point Theater, saw the special screening of *Sankofa* and said she wants to bring the movie back for a two-week run. She is awaiting confirmation from the film distributor.

"I think it will do wonderfully here. It was a powerful movie and everyone should see it," she said.

*Sankofa* sold out three weeks before its Nov. 1 opening at the 1,500-seat Stevens Center. Committee members say hundreds were turned away.

The fact that it sold out so soon shows there is a market for it and still a lot of people who want to see it," Wigron said. "If everyone tells a friend it will sell-out again."

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answer for a new hearing.

His office is located in the BB&T Building downtown at the corner of Third and Liberty streets.

Edmonson said the committee really had no other choice than to move for Mitchell to be disbarred because he did not file an answer to the complaint. He had told members of the committee that he could reveal proof that he was guilty of no wrongdoing, but never did so.

Most attorneys who face disciplinary hearings also usually have legal representation. Mitchell had none, but he will have representation at the next hearing.

Attempts were made to interview Mitchell for this article, but he refused to comment. In an earlier interview, Mitchell said he is innocent of all charges. If Mitchell does not prove his innocence in the hearing, he will be disbarred. Edmonson said the hearing will follow the rules of civil procedure.

The disciplinary committee consists of two lawyers and one lay person.



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