

**Clark County Strategic Plan
Tourism Sub-Committee Meeting
September 10, 2009**

The Clark County Strategic Plan Tourism Sub-committee met for a regular meeting on Thursday, September 10, 2009 at the Honeycomb Restaurant. The following members were present: Teri Hughes, Vicki Egleston, Farrell Ford, Jerry Walker, Alan Dilavou, Adam LupPlace, Kevin Sexton, Linda Eaves, Kristine Puckett and Carrie Roberson.

Carrie Roberson reported on the DeGray Lake Hiking and Biking Trail. Fred Phillips has designed and flagged 10.6 miles of trail. Currently, the required paperwork to get clearance to begin construction is being completed. Fred is working with a Boy Scout to develop signage for the trail. Construction is expected to begin this winter with a completion date of next spring. It is the goal to be open and ready for summer visitors.

Roberson also reported on the Visitor's Center. Remodeling of the center should also begin this winter. Several funding sources are being researched to assist with the daily operations of the center.

Roberson reported on the Bluff project. As of June 1, 2009, the Donald W. Reynolds Foundation stopped accepting capital project proposals. This was the major funder identified to seek financial support of this project. Arkansas State Parks & Tourism has a \$15,000 Feasibility Grant for potential tourist attractions. The grant has a \$15,000 matching component. Farrell Ford made a motion to apply for the Arkansas State Parks & Tourism Feasibility Study Grant and Jerry Walker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee discussed the development of the 2010 community calendar. Teri Hughes volunteered to run PSA's on the radio seeking information regarding special events in the community. Roberson will work on the calendar and have it ready for distribution by the end of 2009.

The committee discussed the FLW Fishing Tournament that will be held the weekend of October 23, 2009. The City of Caddo Valley and Walmart are the major sponsors of the tournament. Carrie asked if anyone would like to volunteer to be on a committee to assist with the tourney. The committee also discussed another large fishing tournament that will be held on Memorial Day weekend 2010. It is the BFL/FLW tournament, the BFL portion will be fished in Hot Springs and the FLW portion will be fished on DeGray Lake. This tournament is expected to bring a lot of participants as well as state and national media (ESPN).

Vicki reported the DeGray Lake Clean-Up is scheduled for September 26.

Farrell Ford presented information on this year's Caddo River Arts Guild Tour. The tour is scheduled for October 16, 17, and 18. This year over 22 artists will be participating in the event.

The committee discussed meeting again in November.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Submitted by:
Carrie Roberson