

At CCSP event, participation agreed 'critical'

Bee says 'real work' to begin in January

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The setting was more "party" than planning, Tuesday evening at the Captain Henderson House as leaders of the Clark County Strategic Planning Committee updated community residents on the progress of the process.

The "real work" of the Clark County Strategic Planning Committee will begin in earnest in January, said Ed Bee, president of Taimeric Inc., the firm hired to facilitate the development of the plan. "The next thing will be the visioning process in January," he said. "We'll need a broad cross-section of the community to be involved. That's where the different committees will come into play."



April Sellers shows her design for a logo for the Clark County Strategic Planning Committee Tuesday afternoon at the Captain Henderson House. Sellers, a student at Henderson State University, received \$250 for her effort.

The strategic planning process is aimed at seven different areas: Education, healthcare, housing, economic development, tourism, leadership, and funding and foundation advisors.

Attendance at the meetings has dwindled over the months.

When the meetings began last summer, hundreds of people attended. As the monthly meetings continued, attendance dropped off.

"We've been talking for all these months," said Dr. Alan Wright, one of the co-chairman of the committee.



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Ed Bee shows Carrie Roberson an angel decoration Tuesday afternoon at the Captain Henderson House. Bee, president of Taimeric, Inc., is the facilitator of the Clark County Strategic Plan. Roberson is an employee of Elk Horn Bank and attended a meeting and reception of the CCSP at the historic inn.

Members of the community are ready to see a workable plan that can be put into action, he said.

Bee agreed, saying participation is "critical" to creating and

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CCSP reception

Vickie Jones, left, innkeeper at the Captain Henderson House, serves Leatha Bryant and Dr. Kenneth Harris during the reception Tuesday afternoon for the Clark County Strategic Planning Committee. The social event involved food and drink, as well as information on the planning process.

Event

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The contest was open to students at both Henderson State and Ouachita Baptist universities. The winner was April Sellers, who said her goal was to design a simple logo to demonstrate progress and growth. She received \$250 for first place for her drawing of a road with progressively larger trees.

"We looked at them all very carefully," Kluck said. "Since you don't normally see a logo full-size, we reduced them down to see which ones were still recognizable and this one popped out every time," he said. Cash prizes were also awarded to second, third and fourth-place winners.

Implementing a plan that can work. Beginning in January, the community-wide meetings will be longer and more detailed. "We'll have two-hour meetings that include break-out sessions," Bee said. "In those, we'll find out what needs to stay the same and what needs to be done differently."

In February, the committee will begin to prioritize ideas. "We need to decide on the five or six things that can be done in the next five years that will make a difference," Bee said.

Dr. Wesley Kluck, co-chairman of the committee, announced the winners of the contest to design a logo for the CCSP.