

Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group (G&TUAU)
Tuesday, August 12, 2014 – 7:00 PM
GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND

MEETING NOTES

Wes Rogers
Art Young
Richard O'Connor

Aaron Kennedy
Zoe Kennedy
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Old Business

A. Bike project updates

i. League of American Bicyclists Bicycle Friendly Community (BFC)

Application: The application will be submitted tomorrow. A user-friendly copy will be available online later this month. We will be notified of the decision of the reviewers sometime in October.

ii. Bicycle parking inventory results: The results from the inventory were positive. Over 4,000 bicycle parking spots were identified and over 65% of the racks met the Association of Pedestrian and Bicycle Professionals recommended standards.

B. Greenway brochure: The group would like to see more photos showing the serenity and wildlife offered by the Greenway.

C. Boathouse & river access: The boathouse has not been completed yet.

City staff is working with CPS Engineering to develop a river access site just north of the boathouse site. This site would meet ADA accessibility concerns and can be developed as a community gathering spot for events and river viewing. Plans will be coming later this year.

II. New Business

A. Special project requests - updates

i. Boxing equipment: The requestor has not contacted Kim for approval of the location.

ii. Pump bike track: Ground Up Adventures had requested a pump bike track and/or obstacle course in the Greenway, preferably near the boathouse. The Greenway Technical Committee does not think that the Greenway is an ideal place for this activity because of the flooding issues. Kim has met with a few cyclists who would like to pursue the idea. That group decided that this activity would be better suited in an area that stays dry and doesn't require as much cleanup.

Aaron has contacted GF Park District Commissioner Molly Soeby about the possibility of partnering with the GF Park District for this track. She was receptive to the idea and suggested that he develop a proposal to present to the Commissioners.

iii. Unpaved trail system: This was another idea brought forth by Jim Grjalva and Ground Up Adventures at the June 10 meeting. The GTC staff requested that Kim host a meeting of all interested parties regarding the unpaved trail system.

That meeting will be a part of an upcoming Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group agenda.

III. Other

- A. Community cycling event:** The group that worked on the BFC application wanted to host a community event this fall to celebrate the application and the addition of sharrows on University Avenue. Since then, the Downtown Development Association (DDA) has decided to host a similar event. They have agreed to include the BFC committee in their planning efforts. Northern Star Cycling Club plans to offer a cycle ride during the event. Bike maintenance and a possible urban race could also be a part of the agenda.
- B. 311 Program:** The City of Grand Forks has launched an online program for reporting potholes, traffic concerns, and other city related issues. There is also an app for mobile phones. The program has been very popular, especially for reporting tall grass. There is a section for reporting concerns about the trails.
- C. Role of the Committee:** The group discussed the decisions by GF City Council to add sharrows on University Avenue and remove the bicycle lane on 47th Avenue South. Kim expressed to the group that both processes did not fully include the committee in the discussion until after a decision and recommendation had been made to Council. Her concern was that this group should be included as part of the early discussions, not after. It is difficult to ask people to share their time and knowledge on a volunteer basis if we are not going to ask them to participate in the planning process.

She has had some discussions with Mayor Brown and others about how to incorporate this group into the decision making process, as it is called an advisory group. She will continue to update the group on these discussions.

IV. Next meeting date: 7PM, Tuesday, October 14, 2014, GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

Submitted by: Kim Greendahl, Greenway specialist, City of Grand Forks