

Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group (GTUAG)
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, July 12, 2011 - 7:00 PM
GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND

Jim Grijalva
Tyrone Grandstrand, GF City Council
Todd Feland, City of Grand Forks
Nikki Seabloom
Bob Seabloom
Matt Yavarow, GF City Engineering

Roxanne Achman, GF City Planning
Rick Blair
Richard O'Connor
Dave Sears
Kim Greendahl, City of Grand Forks

- I. Presentation: Orienteering by Jim Grijalva, Ground Up Adventures:** Jim is vice-president of Ground Up Adventures (GUP), a local non-profit organization that is interested in promoting adventure races. Orienteering is one piece of adventure racing that can be done without participating in a race because the course is in place all the time instead of just temporarily. All that is needed to participate is a map of the checkpoints and a compass. The Greenway Technical Committee approved an application by Ground Up Adventures to install an semi-permanent orienteering course in the Greenway.

GUP will be having a booth at the Family Fun Night in Lincoln Drive Park on July 26 to give people a taste of orienteering. Eventually the group would like to offer family adventure races similar to the ones being done for adults.

The course will be designed for all age groups and allow the opportunity for practicing their skills. So far the river has been too high to install the checkpoints but once the installed, the map of the checkpoints will be posted on the GUP website. The GUP website is www.groundupadventures.com and www.extremenorthdakota.com

II. Previous discussion items and updates:

- a. **Trail user survey details and signup:** The survey will be done on August 2, 3 and 6th in four locations: 7th Avenue No (GF), Riverside Dam (GF), Eagles Point (EGF) and the south pedestrian bridge (GF). Signup will be done online. Kim will send out the link in an email message.
- b. **Special project request updates**
 - i. **Boat house on the Red Lake River:** Adam Magness, President of Ground Up Adventures, presented the idea of erecting a boat house upstream from Louis Murray Bridge to the EGF City Council at the June 28 work session. The Greenway Technical Committee supports the idea and suggested that Andy begin the process of working with the City of EGF to determine if an agreement could be reached for this project.

The boat house would be a resource for canoe and kayak rental along the river. The obstacles for the use of non-motorized watercraft are a lack of skill with the craft, a fear of the river and the lack of equipment. The boat house would provide easy access to equipment and basic training for those interested in using non-motorized watercraft on the rivers.

- c. **Trail marking system:** The first markers have been installed along the loop trail in Grand Forks. East Grand Forks is still working on the installation. There are a few errors that need to be corrected with the 911 signs but those will be corrected soon. So far feedback has been positive from the users.

III. New discussion items:

- a. Rerouting of trail in EGF:** The city of East Grand Forks has been approved for funding a new trail connection between the railroad bridge and Louis Murray Bridge. The new trail will be built on higher ground and replace the original trail that has deteriorated because of vehicle traffic. The drawings have been completed and construction can begin later this year.
- b. Greenway Plan updates for EGF:** As part of the reconstruction of the downtown EGF trail, members of the EGF City Council and staff are looking at ideas for different uses for the area along the river where the Red and Red Lake Rivers converge. This would be done to improve the area for the users and discourage vehicle traffic along the river.

IV. Other

- a. Bike rental racks:** Tyrone brought the idea of installing bike share rental racks for installation in the community. This is not the same as a bike share program with bikes available for free. This is a program similar to what Red Box does for movie rentals: unstaffed kiosks provide a product available for rent by using a credit card or other means of payment. Tyrone would like the group to support this idea for consideration by the City Council.

A similar idea was discussed by a group of agencies many months ago but nothing came of the meeting. Kim will add this item to the August agenda and invite the attendees from that meeting and a few other interested parties to see explore the potential for bringing this to Greater Grand Forks.

V. Next meeting date: 7:00 pm, Tuesday, September 13, 2011 at the Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

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