

Greenway Technical Committee (GTC)
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, January 10, 2012 - 10:30 am- Noon
Grand Forks Park District Office, 1210-7th Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND

Corey Birkholz, Options	Teri Kouba, MPO
Dave Aker, EGF Park & Rec	Roxanne Achman, GF City Planning Dept.
Dwight Love, GF Police	Laura Munski, Dakota Science Center
Bill Palmiscno, GF Park District	Kim Greendahl, City of Grand Forks
Melanie Parvey, City of Grand Forks	Bill Palmiscno, GF Park District
Nancy Ellis, GF/EGF MPO	Tom Reiten, Resident
Meagin Rude, Assisting in the Greenway Plan Supplement Update	
Lonny Winrich, Committee Chairman	

I. Old Business

a. Special project request updates

i. Disc golf course at Riverside Park

The committee and staff have reviewed this request and have not identified any reasons to deny the request. The person making the request has met with the local disc golf association representative and they have agreed that a nine hole, fairway style course could work in Riverside Park area of the Greenway. The committee approves the request and forwards it to the Service/Safety Committee for the City of Grand Forks to review and approve.

b. Supplement to the Greenway Plan

i. Introduction of Maegin Rude

Maegin has a degree in Landscape Architecture/Environmental Design and has been hired by the committee to assemble the supplement to the Greenway Plan. She will also be updating and creating maps of areas that have changed since the 2001 Greenway Plan was published.

ii. Status of the plan update

Staff is compiling information about developments and changes that has been done over the last ten years in the Greenway. This information will be added to the original plan as a supplement and will include an inventory of what is in the Greenway, governance model, etc. In the conceptual plan there were ideas for potential projects that didn't happen and projects that weren't in the plan, like the dog park and disc golf, that were added to the project. The supplement will explain why some projects were completed and some were not. The Sept. 2001 Greenway Plan was passed around to the group for discussion.

iii. Next steps

Lafave Park in EGF is an area that is being considered for redesign. Suggested additions have included beautification of the area with vegetation, parking area, fishing site. The community is encouraged to provide insight to these ideas through an online survey. There have been 36 responses to the survey. The deadline for submission is January 13. Nancy Ellis with the MPO is putting together a summary of these comments. The survey is open to comments until Jan. 13, 2012. Kim G. will share a link on this and you do not need to be a resident of EGF to submit comments. Also Sacred Heart is going to provide some comments as they use the area for their sports program. The MPO would like to use the updated Greenway Plan for requesting funding for this area. Dave and Nancy will be looking into potential grant opportunities from the Legacies Fund available through the state of Minnesota. EGF will host a public meeting likely at the end of Jan. or the beginning of Feb to gather input on the concept

plan for LaFave Park. Public input will help support future funding request and will show that the city supports the plan..

II. New Business

a. Yearend report for 2011

This document provides information on all the races that the City of GF tracks through special events program but does not include events that the Park District coordinates with the GF Public School system.. If there are other things that should be shared please email or call Kim on them by the end of this week and then this document will go out to the public.

b. 2GF (Thompson to Grand Forks) trail project

A draft map of the proposed trail was shared with the committee. This trail follows old Hwy 81 going south and turns right at Hwy 15. The trail continues over the interstate at the Thompson exit at Hwy 15 and connects to the trail in Thompson. The City of Grand Forks has extended this trail down to the 55th St. on old Hwy 81 and this could eventually be a part of the proposed trail. A more formal design for the trail needs to be done. Public support for the project will be gathered through information sharing and possibly a survey.

c. Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group update – Kim

The meeting is at 7 pm tonight and the agenda mirrors this agenda.

III. Greenway Agency Updates

- a. **GF Park District:** Ski Days will be the first week-end in Feb. as there are still a lot of parts of that event that draw a crowd such as the sleigh (or wagon) rides. Santa Village was also quite different this year without the snow. The wagon rides were very popular and the kids were outside playing games like kickball, which is almost unheard of for this time of the year.
- b. **City of EGF:** Reported that the MN Legacy Fund has about \$27 million to support trail projects throughout the state.
- c. **City of GF:** Winter Fest is usually held the second week in Feb but the lack of snow means the event will be cancelled. The majority of the activities require snow (snowmobiling, skiing, snowman building contest, etc) but Clear Channel and other partners do not want to put a lot of energy in something that will need to be canceled because of the lack of snow so the event will not happen in 2012 unless the weather turns and we get some snow.
- d. **GF Police:** There was some snowmobile activity on New Year's Eve but otherwise there has been no snow and most of us are waiting for winter to come.
- e. **Options:** In 2010 changes were made to ADA requirements for parking guidelines that will be going into effect this year. This affects restriping and functional areas outdoors.

VI. Next Greenway Technical Committee meeting: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 – 10:30 am at Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

Submitted by: Melanie Parvey, Environmental Compliance/Greenway Manager, City of Grand Forks

Attachments: 2011 yearend greenway report

Greenway Annual Report of Activities and Achievements 2011

Did you know?

The Greenway was the location of at least fourteen 5k races and five 10k races in 2011. That's over 74 miles (74.564543068 to be exact or 393,700.7874 feet). That's a lot of running!

Not everyone in the Greenway was running though! The Greenway provided a beautiful setting for three weddings and an engagement proposal or two.

The crowd on wheels gave a good showing too. The first annual Rollin' on the River inline skating event hosted a kickoff event in Lincoln Drive Park and the UND Cycling Club hosted another successful cyclocross event in Riverside Park. Not to be outdone, winter cyclists participated in an ice-bike race in the snow and ice during Winter Fest.

An outdoor movie gave participants the chance to see a movie classic under the stars in Riverside Park.

Add the annual Christmas in the Park event, Santa Village, Greenway Ski Days, Winter Fest, END Iceman triathlon, the North Dakota State Disc Golf championship tournament, Chalk it Up, Grand Cities Art Fest, And that's not all that happened in the Greenway in 2011:

1. The cross country ski grooming route was expanded to offer a complete trail from Riverside Dam to 47th avenue south with continuous grooming.
2. A cross country ski route was added in the campground in EGF.
3. The paved trail in LaFave Park was rerouted to replace the damaged lower trail and offer spectacular views of the Red and Red Lake Rivers without closing during minimal flooding.
4. A mile marking, 911 emergency and orientation sign system was installed along the loop trail.
5. The Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group conducted a trail user visual survey to document summertime trail use.
6. The Greenway website was updated to provide better access to greenway related information. Changed the website address to www.greenwayggf.com.
7. The policy on ADA trail accessibility requirements for Other Power Driven Mobility Devices was reviewed.
8. There were several requests from greenway users to consider improvements to the system. The Greenway Technical Committee heard requests from the public for ordinance changes to allow the use of electric assisted bicycles on trails for all users, installation of bluebird boxes, a historical plaque at the railroad bridge, and installation of an orienteering course, installation of a boat house along the river and the installation of a disc golf course in Riverside Park.
9. Work began to publish an update to the original Greenway Plan.
10. Our friends at Xcel Energy and the UND Law School Environmental Law group donated funding to host tree planting projects in the Greenway.
11. Once again the Red River State Recreation Area campground broke campership records, even though opening was delayed because of high water and a state government shutdown kept the campground closed for a while in July.
12. A new campground and gathering area was installed in the campground.
13. The deck area of Riverside Pool was expanded to allow for more seating area. Attendance at both Riverside and the East Grand Forks pools remained steady from 2010, despite a cool start to the season.

14. Volunteers worked tirelessly to rebuild the Sherlock Forest playground after a fire destroyed the original structure.
15. Gladwin Lynne retired as manager of the campground. Catherine Johnson has been hired as the new manager.