

Greenway Technical Committee (GTC)
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, January 11, 2011 - 10:30 am- Noon
Grand Forks Park District Office, 1210-7th Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND

Bill Palmiscino, GF Park District
Melanie Parvey, City of GF
Roxanne Achman, City of GF Planning
Dave Aker, EGF Parks & Recreation
Tom Reiten

Dr. Laura Munski, Dakota Science Center
Rick Ziegelmann, GF Park District
Sgt Dwight Love, GF Police
Terry Kouba, MPO
Kim Greendahl, City of Grand Forks

I. Old Business

a. Special project request updates

- i. Electric assist bicycles:** According to Howard Swanson, City Attorney for GF, the current Greenway ordinance restricts the use of electrically assisted bicycles in the Greenway. Kim has asked him to draft a revision to the ordinance to allow for this technology. She has not heard back from him on the progress of the ordinance.
- ii. Bluebird nesting boxes:** The GTC staff approved an application from the UND Nature Club to install about a dozen bluebird nesting boxes. Kim will work with the group to determine locations for the boxes.

II. New Business

- a. Cross country ski & snowmobile trail update:** Sgt Love reported that the GF police patrolled the Greenway for snowmobiles every day during the holidays. Snowmobile traffic seems to have diminished, which could be the result of the vegetation barriers and increased patrol.

Snowmobiles and other motorized vehicles continue to use the pedestrian bridges as a link between the two cities. Melanie is looking into the possibility of adding bollards or some type of gate to prohibit snowmobile and other motor vehicle traffic on the pedestrian bridges. Any physical barricades would have to be installed in a way that still allows for the passage of maintenance vehicles and ADA compliant wheelchairs.

- b. Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group update:** The group will be talking about the upcoming ski clinics and how the grooming of the trails has been going.

- c. Waypoint finding project – Dr. Laura Munski Waypoint project:** Laura is working with a UND graduate student to gather waypoints and narrative information to be used for developing walking tours in the Greenway. The goal of the project is to provide a different format for providing tours of the greenway that uses technology beyond a printed map. Specific tours will be determined by topics that emerge from the data gathered and will include natural and community history, wildlife, vegetation, recreational features and any other topics that emerge from data gathered.

The Dakota Science Center has produced similar tours for UND and the north and south side historic districts. The waypoints will be available on the Greenway and visitors websites as well as in written format. Plans are to have at least two of the tours ready by summer 2011.

III. Greenway Agency Updates

- a. City of EGF:** The rinks will be open until March unless the weather gets too warm. J & G Landscaping has been grooming a trail in the campground. Dave is hoping that people will start using it more often.
- b. City of GF:** A proposal to expand the deck and fencing at Riverside Park at the cost of \$15,000 will be presented to Council soon. A request to build an addition to the existing

dog park area to provide a separate area for small dogs will also be presented to the Council soon.

- c. **GF Park District:** Greenway Ski Days is February 4 & 5 in Lincoln Drive Park. There will be a candlelight ski on Friday night and sleigh rides, chili and free skis available for use on Saturday. Santa Village was a success with an estimated attendance of 11,000. The skating rinks will remain open until early March and the ski trail in Lincoln Drive Park will remain open as weather permits.
- d. **MN DNR:** No report.

IV. Other

- a. **Wildflower garden at Lincoln Drive Park:** Tom is concerned about the condition of the wildflower garden in Lincoln Drive Park. The burdock and weeds have been taking over the garden and choking out the other species.

The concern about maintaining facilities and projects after the donor walks away has been an ongoing problem for the GTC. The implementation of the special project request form has helped answer that question for new projects but items like the wildflower garden were installed before the program.

Bill will ask Melissa to attend the next committee meeting to discuss potential solutions.

V. **Next Greenway Technical Committee meeting: Tuesday, March 8, 2011 – 10:30 am at Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South**

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