

Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group (GTUAG)
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, October 9, 2012 - 7:00 PM
GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND

Teri Kouba, MPO
Joe Vacek
Dave Sears
Jeff Burgess
Dan Splichal
Richard O'Connor
Wes Rogers

Loren Bervik
Jane Croeker
Aaron Kennedy
Matt Yavarow, City of GF Engineering
Nancy Ellis, MPO
Rick Blair
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Old Business

a. Special project request updates

- i. Disc golf course at Riverside Park:** The disc golf association has not contacted Kim to review a new course layout.

Questions from the group:

- 1. Has a visual survey ever been done to document the use of the course?** A visual survey has not been done for disc golf but could be done with an intern or volunteer group. Disc golf players in attendance stated that the courses in Lincoln Drive Park are busy and it is not unusual to wait for a tee time.
 - 2. Could the course be redesigned so the tee signs could be flipped to offer a challenge and change?** Kim will bring this suggestion to the disc golf association for consideration.
 - 3. Will this new course have an effect on future cyclocross races?** No. The disc golf would be closed for the cyclocross events. This has been done for the cross country meets in Lincoln Drive Park course.
 - 4. The original plan was to design a fairway-style course that wouldn't require being mowed completely. Has that changed?** No. The goal is still to design a fairway-style course but the City of GF mowed the area to determine the terrain, identify any hidden objects, and try to get the burdock and other weeds under control. Kim will continue to work with the disc golf association to retain this goal in the planning process.
- ii. Disc golf course at Lincoln Drive Park:** Travis has not contacted Kim to review a new course layout.
- iii. Boat house along the river:** Andy Magness of Ground Up Adventures held a public meeting on September 19 to discuss the status of the boat house. He has met with the US Army Corps of Engineers about the types of facilities that would be allowed on the wet side of the flood protection system. The Corps requires that the structure be temporary and easy to remove from the flood plain.

Andy worked with JLG Architects to design a temporary structure that could be used for storage of kayaks and canoes and serve as a registration office. The design uses two storage containers that are reconfigured to provide storage and office space.

The group also discussed the proposed site of Eagles Point and decided that they would prefer to pursue locating the facility in downtown Grand Forks, just north of DeMers Avenue.

- iv. **Bocce ball court:** This request was tabled until the next Greenway Technical Committee meeting.

II. New Business

a. Special project request:

- i. **Extension to the north boat ramp:** Brad Durrick submitted a request to extend the pavement on the north boat ramp further into the river. The river level has dropped below the paved surface, which makes unloading and loading a boat difficult. The river usually drops late in the fishing season.

It may be possible to apply for funding from the ND Game & Fish Department (NDGFD) for an extension to the ramp. The NDGFD awarded the city 75% of the funding for the boat ramp. Melanie will contact the NDGFD for funding opportunities.

The committee supports this idea and will share this request with the Service/Safety Committee.

- ii. **Changes and upgrades to the entrance to Christmas in the Park:** The Lions' Clubs have submitted a request to add ten 17-foot posts on the wet side of the flood protection system, near the entrance to Lincoln Drive Park. These posts would be used to hang lighted scroll decorations. Temporary electricity would be provided with the use of extension cords from a nearby power box. The Lions' would prefer to install permanent posts but could do removable posts, if necessary.

These posts will be placed in the right of way of the roadway. There should be no conflicts with any deed restrictions on properties in this area that may have been purchased with FEMA funding.

The Committee supports this idea as a way to enhance the Christmas in the Park. This request will be forwarded to the Service/Safety Committee for approval.

- b. **Greenway promotions budget:** The group would like to see this fund used to print and distribute seasonal maps, especially for winter recreation.
- c. **Trail user visual survey results:** Kim does not have the final counts because there are some gaps in data from a few locations. The time of year had a big impact on the final numbers, which were down from the 2011 count.
- d. **Greenway Technical Committee news:** Steve Mullally was installed as the new chairperson. Lonny is moving to Freeport, Maine in early November. Steve's term will expire in February 2015.
- e. **"Share the Road" open forum:** The group will review the bikeway map and Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) transportation plan at the next meeting. This will provide an opportunity to draft a list of recommendations for consideration by the MPO and city councils. This will be the focus of the November meeting.

II. Other

- a. **Christmas in the Park:** Can the Lions' cleanup the remnants of Christmas in the Park sooner? There is a deadline for removal in the agreement between the City and the Lions' Clubs. The City works with the clubs to clear the area prior to the deadline.

III. Next meeting date: 7:00 pm, Tuesday, November 13, 2012 at the Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

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