

Greenway Technical Committee (GTC) STAFF
1 PM – Tuesday, February 28, 2020
Icon Sport Center, 1060 47th Ave South, Park District

Meeting Notes

Bill Palmiscino, Chairperson
Catherine Johnson, MN DNR
Gunnar Patz, UND wildlife biology student
Sgt. Duane Simon, GF Police
Chief Mike Hedlund, EGF Police

Jason (Jay) Boulanger, UND wildlife biology professor
Theresa Flitter, City of GF
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Old Business

A. Deer count presentation

- i. Jay gave an overview of his work with deer in urban settings at Cornell University. There are a few options for managing the deer population: hands off, harvest, sharp shooter (cheapest method), and sterilization. Each of these types has pros and cons. Cost, public acceptance, and effectiveness are all factors when deciding which method to use.

Lyme disease would accelerate any action.

Jay counted at least 25 deer on his three mile run through the southend of the GF Greenway. It is possible that even more deer are “yarding up” in backyards.

Jay and Gunnar are proposing a deer population count and survey of resident living near the Greenway. This would be a way to gather baseline data. A similar survey was done in Bemidji. That survey will be used as a template.

Apple target at 20'

How would we get word out about the survey? The monthly utility bill is an option but a lot of people get the bill online and might not read the message at the bottom. A postcard might be more effective. Only people living near the Greenway would be asked to participate because opening it up to all residents could skew the data. A postcard that directs people to a website link could be sent to those residents. That would prevent the need to manually enter the responses. Kim will work with Gunnar and Jay to develop the survey questions and post online.

II. New Business

A. Proposed improvements to the landing area @ floating dock in GF

- B. **Park naming rights:** Staff would like to adopt a document outlining the responsibilities of both parties involved in donations to name a park. The document should have an end date with options to renew, along with details about how improvements and changes to the park will be handled. Bill will send a copy of the park naming criteria used by the GF Park District.

- C. **Lighting policy:** This item will be placed on a future agenda for discussion. It was discussed at the February user group. They favor additional lighting but only in heavily used areas like the dog park and park entrances. The consensus from the advisory group was that too many lights along the trail would affect the natural ambience of the rest of the Greenway. Kim will work on a draft policy for the group to consider.

III. Agency Updates

- A. City of EGF:
- B. GF Park District:
- C. City of GF:
- D. Minnesota DNR: