

Greenway Technical Committee (GTC)
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, March 11, 2014 – 7:00 PM
GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND

Steve Mullally, Chairperson
Dave Aker, EGF Parks & Rec
Catherine Johnson, RRSRA
Kim Greendahl, City of GF
Corey Birkholz, Options
Karen Salwey, City of GF

Melanie Parvey, City of GF
Sgt. Derik Zimmer, GF Police
Stephanie Erickson, MPO
Bill Palmiscino, GF Park Dist.
Tom Reiten
Dr. Laura Munski, Dakota Science Center

I. Old Business

- A. 2013 Annual report:** The 2013 Annual Report is now available online at www.greenwayggf.com. (attached)
- B. Adopt-a-Trail:** Kim has received requests from groups looking to participate in the Adopt-a-Trail but she does not have any segments available. EGF still has some sections available. Kim will forward the contact information to Dave Aker.
- C. Boathouse:** Melanie has been working on the bank accessibility for the boathouse. Corey would like to work with Melanie on this project.

II. New Business

- A. 2014 flood outlook –** The crest is predicted at 32-34 feet, which is considered moderate flood stage. River Road, Lincoln Drive and Riverside Parks close at 35 feet. The weather outlook is for continued cold temperatures over the next two weeks. List of closure levels is on the website.
- B. Motorized bicycles on trails –** There has been discussion regarding power driven bicycles in the Greenway. These are bicycles that have a small electric motor to assist the rider. The City of Grand Forks has a policy for the Greenway trails but it is not an ordinance and can be difficult to enforce. Officers try take a common sense approach when it comes to motorized mobility devices on public sidewalks and walkways.

A committee will be set up to work on recommendations and consolidations to the current ordinances. Corey, Melanie and Dave will look into these issues and report back.

III. Agency Updates

- A. City of EGF:** Kim has been contacted by Bonnie Greenleaf from the US Army Corps of Engineers about organizing a bike tour of the entire Greenway trail loop on June 21. Bonnie plans to invite people who participated in the design and construction of the Flood Protection System. This would also celebrate the 10-year anniversary of the dedication of RRSRA campground, downtown and Lincoln Drive Park.
- B. GF Park District:** Bill distributed a map of the construction planned at the entrance to Lincoln Drive Park this summer. The Park District has moved most large events usual done in this park to different parks for the summer. Police will need to enforce the no parking on Euclid & Plum. The City and GF Park District are renegotiating the agreement for Riverside Pool.
- C. City of GF:** The outdoor rinks were closed on Sunday, March 9. The City is planning to build a scenic overlook in LaFave Park (overlooking the river by the Dam and softball diamonds). They are also looking to install a new dock and scoreboards at the baseball field.
- D. Minnesota DNR:** Catherine is working with a group of other state parks for a brochure about State Parks in the NW Area Loop. This brochure will promote the parks in hopes of

keeping visitors in the area. The brochure will include birds, updates on ski trails, top 10 reasons to visit, etc. and will include Lake Bronson, Old Mill, and all Parks in the NW Area. There is also a book coming out soon to bring attention to the birds of NW State Parks.

IV. Other

- A. Bike lanes on 47th Avenue South** - Tom asked why two bike lanes and no parking signs were installed on 47th Ave S from Belmont Road to Loamy Hills Place. This has affected the parking for people wanting to use the Greenway and is in effect year-round. There was no notification sent out to the neighborhood for this bike lane before it was installed. The committee stated they were also unaware of the bike lane installation and recommended that Tom bring his concerns to the Service Safety Committee meeting tonight. Biggest impact was to Greenway users, with no parking to gain access to the Greenway.

Comment was made that sharrows on UND campus is same situation. No notification that this was happening either.

V. Next meeting date: 10:30AM, Tuesday, May 13, 2014, GF Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

Submitted by: Karen Salwey, Administrative Specialist Senior, City of Grand Forks

Support materials: 2013 annual Greenway report
 Overview of Lincoln Dr Reconstruction 2-14

Greenway Annual Report of Activities and Achievements 2013

It was a busy year in the Greenway. New events, amenities, and services were added in 2013 in response to user input and needs.

The inaugural Uff Da Mud Run was held in September along the banks (and in the waters) the Red and Red Lake Rivers along the Greenway. Over 400 participants braved an obstacle course of mud, water, and other physical challenges to prove their mental and physical mettle. Congratulations to END Racing for hosting a successful event. We look forward to seeing this event join the growing list of signature events happening annually in the Greenway.

The 2013 trail count demonstrated the continued popularity of the trail system. User trends mirrored the 2011 survey results in most categories. The age group with the highest documented trail use was the 19 – 49 years olds, followed by the 41 – 60 year olds. Biking remains the preferred mode of transportation, followed by walking.

The campground in the Red River State Recreation Area had another great year, with 26,238 guests spending at least one night in the campground. The campground continues to offer informational activities designed to educate and entertain. Archery in the Park, Cooper Hawk Banding, Mammals of the RRSRA, Tracks and Furs, Intro to Geocaching, and an open house were just some of the twelve nature activities provided for campers and the public.

A cool start to the summer caused a slight decrease in attendance at Riverside and Sherlock Pools. Approximately 19,073 people swam at Riverside Pool, while approximately 9,853 people swam at Sherlock Pool.

Several improvements were made to the electronic methods of public notification for events and news. In early spring, the public email delivery system was converted to a new service to improve delivery and provide a user-friendly design. The list of Facebook and Twitter friends continues to grow.

The development of the Greenway never ends. The Greenway Technical Committee and the Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group considered several ideas to improve the Greenway user experience.

- **Boathouse:** A user agreement between Ground UP Adventures and the City of Grand Forks for a boathouse in downtown Grand Forks has been signed. The storage containers have arrived and will be installed after the water recedes this spring.
- **Dog park:** Two improvements were made to the dog park this year. An additional fenced area was added for smaller dogs that might not be comfortable mingling with larger dogs. We also added another entrance at the northeast corner of the large dog park area. This entrance is on higher ground and provides access to the park sooner after a flood.
- **Trail improvements:** A portion of the lower trail in the Sunbeam area was rerouted to higher ground because the old trail had begun to slump.
- **NASA Picture Posts:** Post toppers were installed along the loop trail this fall. A Picture Post is an 8-sided platform for taking repeat photographs of the entire landscape and a picture of the sky. These photos will be used to document changes in vegetation and development in the Greenway. Instructional signs describing the posts and submitting photos will be installed this summer.
- **Cross-country ski trails:** A new ski trail was added behind the Lincoln Drive Golf Clubhouse. This trail winds through the trees along the river and is a step towards developing more unpaved trails along the river.
- **Bocce Ball and horseshoe courts:** A request for installation of bocce ball and horseshoe facilities was denied because of a lack of public interest.
- **Disc golf:** A twelve-hole disc golf course was installed in Riverside Park.
- **Wood duck boxes:** Our friends at Cabela's installed several wood duck boxes throughout the Greenway this summer.
- **Radio-controlled airplane field:** An airfield for radio-controlled airplanes has been approved and will be built along the Red Lake River in East Grand Forks.

So many people gave their time and talents to plan public events, remove trash, trim trees, give input, and much more. We cannot say thank you enough for all you do – and we appreciate the help more than you could ever know.

June 2014 will mark the 10-year anniversary of the dedication of the campground in the Red River State Recreation Area, Lincoln Drive Park, and the Community Green in downtown Grand Forks. These facilities were the first of many projects constructed in the Flood Protection System and Greenway but they were not the last.



CITY OF
GRAND FORKS
ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT

Lincoln Park Road Reconstruction

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