

Greenway Technical Committee (GTC) Staff meeting
9 AM - Tuesday, March 16, 2021
Icon Sports Center, 1060 47th Ave South, Blue Line Club Meeting room
Grand Forks, ND
Meeting Notes

Bill Palmiscino
Reid Huttunen, Chair
Catherine Johnson

Kim Greendahl
Theresa Flitter

I. Old Business

- A. Updating kiosks:** Kim is working with a graphic artist to draft a welcome sign for the entrance points. She is also working on a new logo because the current logo is over 15 years old.
 - i. Electronic kiosk request:** Laura from Newman Signs contacted Kim about an idea to add electronic kiosks in the Greenway. Newman Signs would sell the advertising and pay a fee to the property owner. There is no electricity to the kiosks, and most are on the dry side, so they might not be seen by many people. Kim suggested to Laura that these might be a better fit along the larger bikeway system. No action was taken.
- B. Wayfinding sign plan status:** Funding for the plan development has been approved through Kim's office. The GF planning department will supervise the project.
- C. Wild cucumber vine project:** This plant has spread to most areas of the Greenway and is starting to crush the smaller trees. Kim has been working with NDSU Extension for ideas on how to remove the vines along the riverbank. Herbicides cannot be used because the chemical will also kill the foliage. A controlled burn is not an option because the trees in most of the affected areas would probably not withstand the heat. Removing the vine by hand is an option but is a big task. An event for volunteers to help pull the vines off the trees will be done later in the month to tackle the problem and raise awareness of the vines. Project locations will be Lincoln Drive Park and south of the Sorlie Bridge in EGF.
- D. Greenway Funds at GGF Community Foundation:** Leave the funding procedure as presented.

II. New Business

- A. Special Project requests**
 - i. Street signs in Lincoln Drive Park:** A request is to install street signs throughout the park to help former residents find the location of their house pre-1997. Discussion about whether this is a duplication of service because there is already an interpretive plaza with a plaque telling the story of the former neighborhood and a map made of pavers showing the former streets. The committee had concerns that the signs would have little meaning without context, which the plaza provides. In addition, there is a good chance that the signs will be stolen for souvenirs. Request declined.
 - ii. Covered benches and swings:** This request is to add covered benches to the Greenway. A similar proposal was made several years ago and has been an open

file for consideration when changes and updates are made to the Greenway. This could be something that expands throughout the trail system as people see the benches and request more. No action was taken.

- B. Ray Richards Golf Course(RRGC):** Kim talked to Kyle Meyers, manager at the golf course, about plans for disc golf & cross-country skiing at RRGC. A pay-to-play professional level disc golf course was added in 2020 and is very popular. Kyle plans to add a ski course in the future and would like to work together on grooming options.
- C. Cross-country ski requests:** A group representing the Nordic Ski Club attended the March Bicycle, Pedestrian, and Greenway Advisory Group meeting to present their ideas for routes and ski trail signs.
 - i. Routes:** The representatives want 3 separate routes – classic, skate & bike. The grooming contractor says the routes through the trees are not wide enough for three trails, but one could go outside the trees in the open areas. Adding a third trail would cost extra because that would double the number of passes already being done.

The group also wants to redesign the trail in Lincoln Drive Park by adding a route through the Loop course. This would be a challenge because the Loop area is the only area available for snowshoers. There are free snowshoes in the warming house, so there should be a place where they can be used. The disc golf course is a challenge, too. The ski trail crosses the disc golf trail 12 times. Kim will look at some options for directing snowshoers to an open area and educating disc golf players about the ski tracks.

- ii. Signs:** The ski group presented an example of a sign they would like placed at trail access points, but it is visually busy. Kim will work on a simplified version for consideration.
- D. Disc golf association update:** Kim will be meeting with three players later this week to discuss updating the tee signs in Lincoln and course design in Riverside Park. The course in Riverside was not designed as was originally agreed and is not suitable for beginning players. The equipment is in terrible shape and will need to be replaced. This is an opportunity to revise the course and add foot golf for more variety.

III. Bicycle, Pedestrian & Greenway, Advisory Group March Update: See above.

IV. Other

- A. Watercraft cleaning station:** The ND Game & Fish Department donated a solar-powered CD3 watercraft station to the City of GF. It has been installed at the north boat ramp downstream of Riverside Dam.

V. Agency updates

- A. City of EGF:** Moving forward with bids for a trail overlay from the south pedestrian bridge to Point Bridge.
- B. GF Park District:** Construction on phase two of the skate park will start after April. The original course will remain open as much as possible during construction. Construction is expected to take about six weeks. Riverside Pool will open in early June.

- C. **City of GF:** The local snowmobile club resumed grooming a trail in GF this past winter. Kim is working with the city attorney's office to complete the lease agreement to use the property.

Pet waste has become a problem again in the downtown area. Kim is working with the Downtown Development Association to inform downtown property owners about the problem and the law. Cameras were installed at one location and showed that the problem is caused by just a handful of pet owners.

- D. **Minnesota DNR:** Annual permit fees will be increasing by \$10 this season. Catherine hopes to have the River Heights trailhead open this year. That will depend on CDC and state COVID-19 regulations.

VI. **Next meeting date:** Greenway Technical Committee Staff 9 AM Tuesday, April 20, 2021, Icon Sport Center, 1060 47th Ave South, Blue Line Club meeting room.

Support documents: Letter from GGF Community Foundation re: funding status
Correspondence with NDSU Extension Office re: wild cucumber vines
Ski sign example submitted by ski club

Submitted by: Kim Greendahl, Greenway specialist

Community Foundation

Connecting people who care with causes that matter.

February 24, 2021

Kim Greendahl
PO Box 5200
Grand Forks, ND 58201

RE: 2021 Fund Distribution for the Greenway and Environment Fund

Dear Kim,

On behalf of the Community Foundation of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks and Region, I am pleased to inform you that the 2021 distribution amount for your fund is \$1,458.71. This distribution is calculated at 4% using a twelve-quarter rolling average formula.

Please contact the Community Foundation to determine how you would like to proceed with the distribution of these dollars. In the past, the dollars have contributed to the Community Opportunity Grant Program with a preference toward projects and programs that benefit or enhance activity on the Greenway.

As part of our due diligence process, the Community Foundation Board of Directors will continue to review our fund manager reports and track performance in relation to our Investment Policies. This assessment is utilized to evaluate the annual distribution percentage for the following year.

The Community Foundation's Board of Directors and staff express our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to work with you and to manage your endowment. We look forward to our continued partnership in the coming year to carry out impactful charitable giving.

Please feel free to contact me at any time with any questions or concerns.

Warmest Regards,



Becca Baumbach
Executive Director

Community Foundation of Grand Forks, East Grand Forks & Region
620 DeMers Avenue, Grand Forks, ND 58201

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e: communityfoundation@gofoundation.org

www.gofoundation.org



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Connecting people who care with causes that matter.

4TH QUARTER FUND STATEMENT Greenway and Environment Endowment Fund

Dates of Quarter: October 1, 2020 – December 31, 2020

Statement Date: February 12, 2021

Beginning Balance	\$36,377.49
Fund Additions	
Fund Net Earnings	\$221.08
Fund Market Changes	\$3,151.49
Fund Distributions	
Community Foundation Support Fees	(\$181.89)
Ending Balance	\$39,568.17

This quarterly statement outlines changes to your fund through the fourth quarter of 2020. Should you have any questions about the statement or your fund, please contact the our office.

As part of our due diligence process, the Foundation's Investment Committee thoroughly reviewed our fund manager reports and tracked performance in relation to our Investment Policy over the past year. Based on an assessment of three to five-year averages, the Board of Directors voted to remain at our current 4% distribution percentage for 2021. The distribution amounts are being calculated and notifications to fund holders will be sent out within the next 2-4 weeks.

The Community Foundation's Board of Directors and staff express our sincere appreciation for the opportunity to work with you and to manage your endowment. We look forward to our continued philanthropic partnership in the coming year.

Warmest regards,



Becca Baumbach
Executive Director

INVESTMENT CORNER: The return is net of all manager fees and foundation expenses. The Foundation tracks the investment managers against three market indices: 50% Barclays Capital US Aggregate Bond Index, 40% Dow Jones Wilshire 5000 Index (Total US Domestic Stocks) and 10% EAFE Index (International Stocks). Based on how the indice benchmarks performed, the endowment funds' portfolio was in line with the investment objective set forth by the Investment Committee.

RE: Plant question

Knutson, Carrie <carrie.knutson@ndsu.edu>

Mon 3/1/2021 7:23 AM

To: Greendahl, Kim <KGreendahl@grandforksgov.com>

Good Morning Kim,

I did contact the SCD and their thoughts were similar to Joes.

Carrie

From: Greendahl, Kim <KGreendahl@grandforksgov.com>

Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 3:37 PM

To: Knutson, Carrie <carrie.knutson@ndsu.edu>

Subject: Re: Plant ques on

Thanks for the great informa on, Carrie. I will also contact SCD to get their thoughts, but I think my ques on has been answered - burning is probably not the answer for the en re greenway.

Have a great weekend!

Kim Greendahl - Greenway Specialist - City of Grand Forks - P.O. Box 5200 - Grand Forks, ND 58206--5200 - Phone: (701) 738-8746 - e-mail:

kgreendahl@grandforksgov.com

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From: Knutson, Carrie <carrie.knutson@ndsu.edu>

Sent: Friday, February 26, 2021 9:48 AM

To: Greendahl, Kim <KGreendahl@grandforksgov.com>

Subject: RE: Plant ques on

Good Morning Kim,

I contacted Joe, our Extension Forester, to get his thoughts on controlled burns and trees.

Here is his response-

"Each species has its own level of fire resistance or fire tolerance, and quite simply it mostly depends on the thickness of the bark. Bur oak is rela vely fire tolerant. Most of the other deciduous trees aren't very fire tolerant.

Choosing the burning condi ons can also help to minimize problems – burn on cool days, when trees are dormant, and burning with a backfire are all things that will keep a fire 'cool'. Also, the amount of heat that's released in a fire is related to the amount of fuel burned. The more fuel, the ho er the fire. Therefore, burning when fuel loads are rela vely low will also keep temperatures rela vely low."

I did some research as well. Controlled burns are mostly done in Pine and Oak forests, tree that can tolerate the fire..

There really isn't much informa on for trees in our area. I will also reach out to the SCD and see if they have any informa on.

Have a great day!

Carrie

CARRIE KNUTSON, M.S.

Extension Agent / NDSU Extension Grand Forks County

151 S. 4th St. S302 / Grand Forks, ND 58201-4715

p: 701-780-8229 / f: 701-780-8309

<http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/grandforkscountyextension/>

From: Greendahl, Kim <KGreendahl@grandforksgov.com>

Sent: Wednesday, February 24, 2021 8:31 AM

To: Knutson, Carrie <carrie.knutson@ndsu.edu>

Subject: Re: Plant ques on

Thanks Carrie. I'm not sure if I asked you this before or not: can a controlled burn be done without harming the trees too?

Kim Greendahl - Greenway Specialist - City of Grand Forks - P.O. Box 5200 - Grand Forks, ND 58206--5200 - Phone: (701) 738-8746 - e-mail: kgreendahl@grandforksgov.com

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From: Knutson, Carrie <carrie.knutson@ndsu.edu>
Sent: Monday, February 1, 2021 7:22 AM
To: Greendahl, Kim <KGreendahl@grandforksgov.com>
Subject: RE: Plant ques on

Good Morning Kim,

Yes, you are correct it is wild cucumber.

I has really exploded in our area over the past few years, really noticeable along coulees and in yards.

It is an annual. The best control is to cut the plants at the roots and/or work up the plants when they are young. It is hard to control with chemicals because of its close proximity to other vegetation.

Here is a link with more information on the plant. <https://extension.umn.edu/natural-resources-news/wild-cucumber-vine-growing-all-over>

Take care,

Carrie

From: Greendahl, Kim <KGreendahl@grandforksgov.com>
Sent: Friday, January 29, 2021 3:34 PM
To: Knutson, Carrie <carrie.knutson@ndsu.edu>
Subject: Plant ques on

Hey Carrie. I hope all is well with you.

I have a plant question that I hope you can point me in the right direction to address. I believe it is called wild cucumber and it's a vine that was everywhere in the Greenway this summer. I don't have a photo of the prickly pods, but below is what the vine looks like. Do you have any ideas on how to get rid of it before it crushes more trees.

Any ideas?



Kim Greendahl - Greenway Specialist - City of Grand Forks - P.O. Box 5200 - Grand Forks, ND 58206--5200 - Phone: (701) 738-8746 - e-mail: kgreendahl@grandforksgov.com

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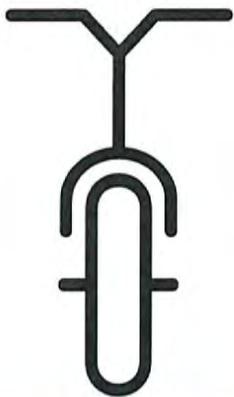
WINTER TRAIL



enjoy politely.

PLEASE STAY IN YOUR LANES

LEFT



MIDDLE



RIGHT



TRAIL COURTESY



CLEAN UP AFTER YOUR PET