

**Greenway Technical Committee (GTC) Staff
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, April 10, 2012
Grand Forks Park District Office - 1210 7th Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND
10:30 am- Noon**

Lonny Winrich, Chairperson
Melanie Parvey, City of GF
Bill Palmiscno, GF Park District

Dave Aker, EGF Parks & Rec
Catherine Johnson, RRSRA campground
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Old Business

a. Special project request updates

- i. Disc golf course at Riverside Park:** This will be discussed at the Service/Safety Committee later today. Staff is recommending approval of the request.
- ii. Purple Martin house request:** Perry Vogel has submitted a request to install a special bird house to attract Purple Martins to the Greenway. There was some concern that this location is close to trail users and that Purple Martins might be an aggressive bird, similar to a Barn Swallow. Kim will follow up with Perry for clarification on these items. The committee would approve the application if these concerns can be addressed.

- b. Supplement to the Greenway Plan:** The supplement to the Greenway Plan has been completed. Printed copies will be distributed to the committee.

II. New Business

- a. Bike rental racks:** A public survey is available online to gauge support and interest for bike rentals in the community. The survey focuses on the possibility of a rental rack system, potential hours of need and ideas for locations. A story published in the GF Herald has generated a lot of interest in the survey. Some of the comments have been very negative but the majority of the responses have been either positive or neutral with interest in how a program like this would operate.

In the past Kim has discussed expanding the bike rental program offered by The Ski & Bike Shop but there hasn't been much interest because of the uncertainty of users. Itasca State Park has a similar program with an outside vendor handling the rentals instead of the MN DNR.

- II. Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group:** The agenda for the group is the same at the Tech Committee agenda.

III. Greenway Agency Updates

- a. City of EGF:** The distance markers and orientation signs are almost installed. This will complete the sign project for the loop. The campground is opening next week. The campground is booked solid for the weekend of May 18 because of the Canadian holiday. The boat landings have been cleaned and are ready for use.
- b. City of GF:** The dock has been installed at the north boat ramp. There is a Riverside Park Neighborhood Association meeting tonight. Bill and Melanie will be attending to give an update on the pool and park for the season. Some of the landscaping in the downtown area is being redone because the original shrubs have not survived the flood water over the past few years.
- c. GF Park District:** Riverside Pool should be opening on time for the season. Staff is working with Vince Ames and a contractor to do a burn at wildflower garden this week to get rid of some of the weeds.
- d. MN DNR:** No report

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

Support document: Greenway Special Project application-Purple Martin bird house

Greenway Project Request Form

Contact name Perry D. Vogel	
Address 703 Barley Ct	
City Grand Forks	State & zip ND 58201-8066
Phone (218) 791 - 3689	
Email address pvogel@gra.midco.net	
Is this request: <input type="checkbox"/> One time event <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> New installation <input type="checkbox"/> Improvement to existing facility	
Brief summary of request:	
<p>The request is to install one Lonestar Purple Martin housing system on the dry side of the Greenway. The planned location of the project will be between 13th and 17th Ave S, Grand Forks, ND. Plans are to complete the installation of the housing by May 15, 2012 in time for the second year (SY) Purple Martin spring migration. Within the guidelines set forth by the Purple Martin Conservation Association, installation will be completed in-kind by volunteers under the advisement of Purple Martin Association of the Dakotas' founder, Perry D. Vogel.</p>	
Support for the activity or facility. How many people typically participate in this activity, is there a user group established in the area, etc.:	
<p>An estimated 16% of the United States' population identify themselves as bird-watchers or birders. Based on this estimate, it is anticipated that 8,700 people may participate. There are two groups established in the area. Agassiz Audubon Society is a nonprofit corporation in existence since 1982 located at 27453 190th St NW, Warren, MN 56762. Purple Martin Association of the Dakotas is a nonprofit corporation in existence since 2012 located at 703 Barley Ct, Grand Forks, ND 58201.</p>	
What is needed to facilitate this project? Space, structures, etc? Please attach a diagram of the proposed layout of the activity or facility, if appropriate.	
<p>The actual space needed is minimal as little as one square foot for the pole installation. The pole height is 20 feet, which is inserted into the 30 inch ground socket set in concrete. The pole can be relocated or removed from the ground socket. Purple Martin housing should be placed in the center of the largest wide-open location and flight area available, at least 40-60 feet from trees or buildings. Close proximity to humans and human housing within 100-120 feet will help protect the Purple Martins from predators.</p>	
What, if any, costs are associated with this project?	
<p>The project budget will range from \$875.00 to \$900.00.</p>	

How will these expenses be paid? Fundraisers, sponsor, etc.
The Lonestar Buy One–Get One Grant Program application is pending from the Purple Martin Conservation Association. Financial contributions will be collected for the project by Audubon Center of the Red River Valley, as part of the Agassiz Audubon Society, in collaboration with Purple Martin Association of the Dakotas.
Does this project require ongoing maintenance? If so, who will maintain the facility?
Yes, year-end seasonal maintenance will need to be done once the Purple Martins have migrated south. Ongoing maintenance will be completed by volunteers and monitored by the Purple Martin Association of the Dakotas' founder, Perry D. Vogel. Volunteers will be educated about Purple Martin conservation efforts. European Starlings will be controlled by the use of Crescent Entrance Hole Type, and English House Sparrows will be humanely eliminated by the use of a live trapping program.
Will this event or facility be open to the public?
Yes, the public will be welcomed to observe the Purple Martin site. Furthermore boy scouts, girl scouts, naturalists, schools, and scientists are all welcome. The public will benefit through hands-on education about Purple Martins and having two public access sites, one located in Minnesota and the other located in North Dakota.
Does this activity or facility involve the use of harmful chemicals, excavation or fire? If so, please describe.
Yes, a single post hole will need to be dug for the installation of the ground socket.

Please submit this completed form and other supporting documents to be considered to:

Greenway Manager
City of Grand Forks
P.O. Box 5200
Grand Forks, ND 58208-5200
701-738-8746

For office use	Date received
Received by:	
Attachments:	