

Greenway Technical Committee
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, January 12, 2010
Grand Forks Park District Office, 1210-7th Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND
10:30 am- Noon

Lonny Winrich, Chair
Corey Birkholz, Options
Tom Reiten
Marty Egeland, ND Game & Fish
Steve Mullally, GF Park District
Sgt Dwight Love, GF Police

Roxanne Achman, GF Planning
Teri Kouba, MPO
Ann Sande
Melanie Parvey, City of GF
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

Guest: Greg Dvorak, GF Park District

I. Old Business

a. Special requests

- i. Disc golf tee pads:** The request to add three new holes to the disc golf course at Lincoln Drive Park was denied by the staff of the Greenway Technical Committee. This decision was because the area requested has been earmarked for a potential small dog park, the two disc golf courses already consume a large part of the park and concern that the development of Lincoln Drive Park is reaching capacity for development. Staff is working on a letter of request to the North Dakota Emergency Management office for the installation of the concrete tee pads.
- ii. Solar lighting at 7th Avenue North:** The Near Northside Neighbors have requested consideration for a pilot project to add solar lighting at the 7th Avenue North access in Grand Forks. They are willing to provide funding for up to two lights and would like the City of Grand Forks to provide another two lights. Kim is researching the cost, maintenance and feasibility of this request. So far she has not received any information from the companies she has contacted.
- iii. Boat docks at boat ramps in Grand Forks:** The ND Game & Fish Department has donated a t-shape dock to the City of Grand Forks. Plans are to install the dock at the Lincoln Drive Park boat ramp this summer. GF City Council has requested staff to apply for funding from the ND Game & Fish Department for a second dock, to be placed at the "Whopper" John boat ramp near the north pedestrian bridge.
- iv. Temporary storage facility**

II. New Business

- a. Cross country ski trails in GF:** Greg is the grooming staff for the GF Park District. He updated the committee on some of the challenges of grooming the trails this season. The depth of snow from the Christmas Day blizzard made grooming some areas difficult and the groomer has gotten stuck in the deep snow in a few areas. Grooming in Lincoln Drive Park has been good, with very few complications. Greg has been unable to groom a route north of from the Point Bridge to the Sorlie Bridge because the grade is complicated because of the slope of the terrain and snow ridges from the trail plowing in some areas. Another problem area is along the detention pond at Belmont and 13th Avenue South where the snow ridges created by the trail plowing didn't leave much room for grooming. Kim will work with Greg and City staff to solve some of these problems.
- b. Winter Fest:** Tentative schedule, subject to change for weather or snow conditions:
7AM – 11AM
Pancake breakfast @ East Grand Forks VFW, 312 DeMers Avenue

9:30AM – 4PM

USCC Grand Cities 100 snowmobile races

Frozen Feat 5K race

Noon

Hugo's "Souper Bowl" soup cook off - fees apply

1PM – 4PM

Free cross country ski rentals from the Ski & Bike Shop

Hands on activities sponsored by Dakota Science Center

Vintage snowmobile show in front of the Boardwalk in EGF

"Bikecicle," sponsored by the UND Cycling Club - fees apply

Wacky Olympics hosted by UND Wellness Center and Leighton Broadcasting

- c. **Pursuit of 501 (c) 3 status:** Kim has not followed up on asking GF City Attorney Howard Swanson to assist with this project.
- d. **Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group update:** Agenda items include a Winter Fest update, river access for boating, shore bank fishing, canoeing and kayaking.
- e. **River access for boating, shore bank fishing, canoeing and kayaking:** Melanie and Kim are looking for input from users about what they want for shore access sites. The goal is to offer more opportunities to access the river for viewing, canoeing, kayaking, birding and fishing. Some people will always prefer easy access that allows for drive up accessibility but others are satisfied with the opportunity for access.

III. Greenway Agency Updates

- a. **City of East Grand Forks:** Dave has submitted an application for funding to the MN Department of Natural Resources (MNDNR) for consideration to reroute a section of trail in LaFave Park. This would be a replacement to the current trail along the river, which has been damaged by excessive motor vehicle use.
- b. **City of Grand Forks:** Kim is working on a review of the original Greenway Plan written by Greenways, Incorporated. Information on that plan will be shared with the committee later in the year.
- c. **Grand Forks Park District:** The Grand Forks Park District partnered with the GF Public Schools on a pilot project to have free skis, skates and snow shoes available for use at Lincoln Drive Park warming house. Equipment is first come, first served and available to the public during warming house hours.
- d. **Minnesota Department of Natural Resources:** No report
- e. **GF Police:** New patrol snowmobiles will be arriving in February. Updated snowmobile maps are available on the city website. The committee discussed the possibility of organizing a sting trap to curb illegal snowmobile activity. There are no plans at this time to conduct a snowmobile enforcement campaign.
- f. **MPO:** Comments for the 2010 GGF Bikeway maps can be sent to Teri Nelson @ tkouba@grandforksgov.com.
- g. **Options:** Options has opened a new office in Devils Lake.

IV. Other

- a. **Friends of the Greenway:** The group has filed paperwork in the state of Minnesota to dissolve the organization. They plan to give their funds to the Community Foundation for management. Each year five percent of the interest, about \$1,500 per year, would be available for distribution to eligible organizations. Guidelines exclude funding requests for routine maintenance but include special projects. The guidelines will be submitted to the Community Foundation for approval.

V. Next Greenway Technical Committee meeting: March 9, 2010 – 10:30 am at Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

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