

Greenway Technical Committee
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, November 9, 2010 - 10:30 am- Noon
Grand Forks Park District Office, 1210-7th Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND

Lonny Winrich, chair
Melanie Parvey, City of GF
Marty Egeland, ND Game & Fish
Dave Manthei, GF Fire

Roxanne Achman, Planning
Teri Nelson, MPO
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Old Business

a. Special project request updates

- i. **Electric assist bicycles:** Staff has received a request to amend the Greenway ordinance to allow for the use of electric assist bikes on the trail. Kim has been working with Sgt Love to determine what needs to be done to change the ordinance. From that research the only difference they could find between the Greenway ordinances and regular GF ordinances was the definitions for motor vehicles. The Greenway ordinances state: *“Motor Vehicle” means every device in, upon, or by which person or property is or may be transported or drawn upon a roadway except devices moved by human power.*

This conclusion made it unclear whether an amendment to the ordinance was necessary and if so, what change was needed. Should the segment stating “human power” be rescinded or does the fact that the bike can be pedaled exclude it as a motor vehicle. Kim has sent an email to Howard Swanson about this option. The matter will also be placed on the public service and safety standby committee as an informational item.

- ii. **Lions’ club request for Christmas in the Park:** The Lions’ have requested permission to install lighting on a few of the trees at the entrance to CIP and also to install permanent electrical cable to the synchronized tree at the end of the light display. The first request has been granted and Kim is working with the group to install the cable.

II. New Business

- a. **Trail marking project:** The final signs have been ordered and should be here any day now. Posts for the quarter mile markers on the GF trail loop have been installed and the signs could be mounted this month if time and weather allows. Dave expressed concern that the 911 markers would not be helpful to emergency response personnel. The sign locations will be marked on the GIS so emergency responders should be able to access location from that system.
- b. **Cross country ski & snowmobile trail update:** The ski trail is about 75% signed for the season. There were only a few changes to route to accommodate vegetation growth and terrain. The user group will be discussing the possibility of having volunteer ski instructors during events and heavy ski times. Kim has contacted Frost Fire ski lodge about their ski patrol program. The user group would also like to work with the GF Park District to have instructional videos streamed via television and/or youtube at the warming houses. Another possibility is offering classes through the adult education program.

The City of Grand Forks advertised for bids to identify anyone that might be able to augment the grooming being done by the GF Park District. Last season the grooming was very time consuming because of the amount of snow received and weather conditions. Snowmobiles impacted a few areas but not a large percentage of the total

trails. The sport is growing in popularity and skiers would like to see more trails but there is a limit to what the Park District is able to do.

- c. **Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group:** Topics for tonight include an update on marking the cross country ski route and providing cross country ski training and clinics.

III. Greenway Agency Updates

- a. **City of East Grand Forks:** No report.
- b. **City of Grand Forks:** The new brochures are done and ready for distribution. The website will be redesigned over the winter. The website address has been changed to www.greenwayggf.com to make it easier to find. You can still get to the site by using the old address but the shorter address will be used in promotional materials. The winter maps will be ready for printing soon.
- c. **GF Park District:** Crews have started watering the outdoor rinks and hope to be open later this month.
- d. **MN DNR:** No report.
- e. **Options:** The guidelines for architectural features design have been updated. These would include design for fishing piers and other recreational features.

IV. Other

- a. **Canoe lessons:** Melanie was contacted by the owner of a canoe and kayak outfitter who has an interest in offering lessons in Greater Grand Forks. He can do two, four and eight hour courses as well as give rides. He wants to break into the market here and would like assistance in offering these lessons. The proposed arrangement is that the City would promote the program and manage the registrations and the proprietor would teach the class.

The group had concerns about competing with other private agencies that already do this type of service and the use of tax funded staff to subsidize a private enterprise. Marty will look into in any similar programs available through the ND Game & Fish Department that could be done here in 2011.

V. Next Greenway Technical Committee meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2011 – 10:30 am at Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

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