

**Greenway Technical Committee Staff
Meeting Notes
Tuesday, April 13, 2010
Grand Forks Park District Office - 1210 7th Ave. S. Grand Forks, ND
10:30 am- Noon**

Lonny Winrich, Chair
Steve Mullally, GF Park District

Gladwin Lynne, RRSRA
Kim Greendahl, City of GF

I. Old Business

a. Project request update

- i. Solar lighting at 7th Avenue north:** Kim has talked with a local representative for Pulse Products, which manufactures solar lights. They are working on improved technology for the solar light batteries because there is a problem with the batteries freezing in the winter here. He thought information would be available sometime in April. Kim will follow up with him. The Red River State Recreation Area (RRSRA) uses solar panels to power the admission gates at the campground. The gates work well in the summer but start slowing down in the fall. The gates are not used very often in the winter.
 - ii. Disc golf tee pads and expansion:** A letter has been sent to the ND Office of Emergency Management but so far there has been no response.
 - iii. Community gardens:** The Grand Forks County Citizens Coalition (GFC3) has been working with Melanie and Kim on the possibility of a community garden either in the greenway or in an urban location downtown. There is possibly a city owned lot located across from the Water Treatment Plant on south 4th Street.
- b. Greenway Plan overview:** The committee reviewed the Greenway vision statement and summary of citizen ideas. The committee has tried to stay true to the vision statement when making decisions and recommendations.
- c. Informational presentation to councils:** The purpose the presentation is to inform the councils on what the committee does and the process we have for citizen requests. This is an election year in Grand Forks so the committee decided to try schedule time to address the councils after the new council people have taken office. The content of the presentations will be discussed at the June meeting. Kim will work with Dave to schedule the presentations.

II. New Business

- a. 2010 Greenway promotions fund:** Kim is working with Park District staff to determine the remaining balance in the fund. She will ask the staff to send the 2010 invoices to the managing agencies.
- b. Spring flooding & clean up:** There seems to be less silt and large debris than last year. Grand Forks will be opening bids for flood cleanup on Monday, April 19 and work should be able to start soon after the opening.
- c. Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group (GTUAG) update:** The group will be talking about the EGF trail in LaFave Park and the GF bike rack project and the letter the group sent.

III. Greenway Agency Updates

- a. City of EGF:** No report.
- b. City of GF:** An application was submitted to the North Dakota Parks & Recreation Department for consideration for funding the consolidated sign plan. No word has been received about the status of that application.
- c. GF Park District:** Lincoln Golf Course has reopened with seven holes and expects to have all nine holes available by the end of the week. The building at Riverside Pool did not get water but the electrical equipment and other items were removed as a precaution. Steve is working on a review of the availability of bike racks in the parks, as requested by the Greenway & Trail Users Advisory Group.

- d. **RRSRA:** Fifteen to eighteen new campsites will be added this year to the current ninety eight sites. The new campsites will reach the limit of what the park can hold. There will be some work done on some of the electrical boxes at the campsites due to wear and tear from removing and reinstalling them every season. The non-electrical sites will open May 1 and the full service sites will open May 7 and the campground will close October 9. Fees will remain the same as the 2009 season. At the end of July the MNDNR will be hosting a program called "I Can Camp" for people who would like to try camping but don't have the equipment or skills. Everything but the sleeping bag and food will be provided for a fee of \$55. Catherine will be providing some outdoor programming.
- e. **MN DNR:** No report.

IV. Other: None

V. Next Greenway Technical Committee meeting: May 11, 2010 – 10:30 am at Grand Forks Park District, 1210 7th Avenue South

Submitted by: Kim Greendahl, Greenway Specialist

Supplemental materials: Greenway Vision Statement & Project Ideas as of 4-12-10

GREENWAY VISION STATEMENT:

The Red and Red Lake Rivers Greenway will protect residents of Grand Forks and East Grand Forks from flooding, provide opportunities for economic growth, improve and restore ecological stability of the river corridor, link residents and tourists to four seasons of recreation and transportation facilities, provide linkage between the cities, preserve and promote the history and culture of the region through education, and improve the quality of life for future generations.

•Written by workshop participants (residents of Grand Forks, ND and East Grand Forks, MN) and prepared by Greenways, Inc. and the US Army Corps of Engineers as part of the Greenway Plan of September 2001.

Summary:

The construction of the original Greenway Plan has been completed but staff continues to receive ideas for improvement and enhancements to the facility. The information contained in the original plan created by Greenways, Incorporated was the result of neighborhood and public workshops and conversations. The plan addresses overall concepts and suggests projects that would promote the vision statement and also support the growth of the Greenway.

Greenway Survey Comments February 2008

1. Interpretive center
2. Rentals:
Ski equipment on site, bikes, canoe rentals, horse back rides, paddleboats, pedicabs,
3. Lessons:
Cross country skiing, ice skating, ice fishing, in-line skating, disc golf,
4. More special events:
Bike races, marathons, cross-country skiing, event concerts, kite flying event, Volksmarch, fishing, trail tours, Winter family sports on the Red River at least every other month, orienteering class,
5. Signs:
Historical signage, Mileage markers and/or destination distances, flower and tree identification plaques,
6. Facilities:
More benches & trash cans, fields to run and play on, fish pier, more Frisbee golf, horseshoes, Ice hockey rinks, BMX track, shore bank fishing sites, model airplane field, sledding hill at Riverside Park, model airplane fields, badminton courts, observation tower, more exercise stations, Outdoor theater, rope tow ski lift, skate boarding area, foot bridge at Point Bridge, horseshoe and bocci areas, offroad 4 x 4 park, more outdoor basketball facilities, ski jump, volleyball,
7. Trail types:
ATV trails, unpaved paths along the river, Lit cross country ski trails, more snowmobile trails, completed bike trails around the community, ice path – similar to the one at the Forx in Winnipeg, Extend more north & south, more up & down the terrain (using the levees
8. Other:
More information on all activities, hockey program at Riverside Park, turn Riverside Dam into a whitewater park, self-guided tours, Lincoln Golf Clubhouse available in winter for warm up and rest room, statues, indoor swimming pool, community flower garden, mosquito free areas, more trees planted along bike/walking paths, golf carts (electric) on trails, more weed control, more patrolling, lighting, emergency phones, extended restroom hours, more places to sit down; esp in downtown area, return the area to wildlife, less need for softball, basketball, golf, etc. on the Greenway, stop mowing grass, make it natural, more flowers and color,
9. Dogs:
Let dogs off the leash in the greenway, more doggie bag stations, dog watering facility, signs that all dogs must be on a leash.
10. Water access & fishing:
canoe launching facilities/capabilities, canoe access signage, area for youngsters and the elderly on the river, fish cleaning and disposal facility for fishing people, more sites to access water in the summer, Lincoln Park boat ramp

Sources:

- 1: The Greenway Plan, September 2001 Prepared by Greenways Incorporated
- 2: Greenway survey results, compiled by Dr. Laura Munski