

**Greenway Technical Committee
Meeting Notes
Grand Forks Park District
10:30 AM – Tuesday, January 9, 2007**

Ann Sande, Friends of the Greenway
David Hampsten, GF/EGF MPO
Marty Egelund, ND Game & Fish
Steve Mulllaly, GF Park District
Foster Hudson, MN State Parks

Kim Greendahl, City of GF
Dave Aker, EGF Parks & Rec.
Sgt. Jeff Burgess, GF Police
Lonny Winrich
Tim Schroeder, UND

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- I. **Updating the Greenway Map** –The current greenway map was presented at the December Greenway Technical Staff meeting for review. Updates should be submitted to Kim for inclusion on the final map. Once major updates are added, this map should require little maintenance. Bryce at the MN MN DNR used to update the map, but he has left the area for a new position. The City of Grand Forks will pay for the revisions to the map.
- II. **Promotions Fund & Brochure** – The Greenway brochure is being updated and will have another printing will be done in the spring. The updated brochure will have the completed greenway map and a more complete list of amenities. The greenway brochure is very popular, although it is difficult to gauge its effectiveness at drawing in visitors. Park usage is definitely up, but it's hard to say whether that is due to the brochure or other factors. It was unclear whether all managing agencies had contributed to the promotions fund in 2006. Steve will look into this issue. Agreed that each managing agency would contribute \$350 again for 2007. Steve will send invoices for that amount.
- III. **Volunteer Recognition** – Last year a letter was sent to the Herald mailbag saying thank you to all that hosted greenway events and donated time and/or money to the greenway. It is decided that Kim will write another letter in the same vein this year. It is also discussed that the thank you letter sent out to Greenway Technical Committee members at Christmas could be sent out to the entire newsletter mailing list.
- IV. **Dedication Ceremony** – With the ten year anniversary of the flood and the anniversary of the formal decision to move forward with a greenway system approaching, Kim wonders if we will commemorate this with a formal greenway dedication on this date, or if there is another date that may better suit the occasion. Ann suggests having a dedication ceremony when the trails and features are all officially complete, as right now it is unsure whether the entire system will be in the City's control when the flood commemoration will be taking place. The City of GF is still working with the USACE and contractors to complete the items on the punch-list. National Trails Day, June 2, might be a good time for

a dedication. This may be a good idea, as we should know by then whether or not our application to be recognized on the roster of National Trails has been approved. It is agreed to look further into dates and to try to get a clear timeline for punch-list items.

V. Agency Updates

- a. **East Grand Forks** – Working with the MPO on bikeway issues and improvements. Has been working on promoting greenway routes to the schools utilizing the trails. The new bridge over the coulee should be constructed this year. The trail on the south end from the bridge to the overlook area is now open to the public.
- b. **Grand Forks Park District** – Greenway Ski Days are February 2 & 3 in Lincoln Drive Park. Worked with the City to determine that all hard surface trails will be plowed for walking, and ski trails will be laid parallel to the walking trails where possible. The trails from St. Anne's to Riverside Dam are closed.
- c. **MN DNR** – The most common question in the community is whether the MN DNR will be leaving the area. The MN DNR has extended their stay in EGF for another 2-year period because the agreement with EGF has been beneficial to both sides. After the 2-years of this contract period, Foster is unsure of what will happen. He also wants to mention that he plans to retire relatively soon.
- d. **Grand Forks** –
 - i. **Snowmobiles** – Kim is still working on this issue, she feels that it is necessary to provide people some access whether it just be drop off points or small routes that lead them to EGF where there are open trails.
 - ii. **Construction Punch-List** – Still working f to get this list finalized and checked off.
 - iii. **Mowing & Maintenance** – Working to develop the 2008 Mowing & Maintenance policy drafted for bidding this spring.

VI. Other

- a. **ND Game & Fish** – EWP's (environmental water-table purchases) are going on along the Red and Red Lake Rivers, so there will be spots along the banks available for public use. Nothing can be built on EWP lands, but hiking, hunting and so forth will be permitted. Fargo's first city-wide deer hunt has passed. Bow hunting was permitted within city limits, but participation was somewhat low due to the long list of requirements and classes necessary to be permitted to participate. Approximately 20 deer were killed.
- b. **MPO** – The MPO has submitted an application to EGF P&Z requesting permission to pave a stretch of trail along 12th Street to better connect existing trails to the Greenway. The path they would be adding would be 10-feet wide. They have also applied for federal funding for this project, which wouldn't be installed until approximately 2011. They have also been looking at metro-wide bikeway improvements that can be performed on a

smaller scale for less money. There will be a metro-wide bikeway committee meeting Thursday January 11th at 4:00pm at EGF City Hall, room S-101, and a EGF Bikeway Committee Meeting on January 22nd.

- c. **Current Perspective Conference, June 2007:** This conference is being held in Winnipeg and the planners are looking for presenters. Kim will work on an abstract to submit for consideration and the possibility of sharing a promotional booth with the GGF Convention & Visitors Bureau.
- d. **Police Department** –After receiving a call from a citizen concerning a lack of snowmobile drop-off points on the south end, Sgt Burgess asked who is responsible for setting these points. Neither Steve nor Kim is sure who has actual authority to do this, but Kim says she will look into it. Complaints are down overall, but that could be due to the lack of snow, and also the lack of homes in close proximity to the greenway. It is also asked whether there are any laws or ordinances officially on the books preventing snowmobiles from riding on the frozen river, but the only law he knows of is one preventing people from being *in* the river.

The next Greenway Technical Committee STAFF Meeting will be on February 13, 2007 – 10:30 am at the Grand Forks Park District

Submitted by: Kelly Kennedy, Office Specialist, City of Grand Forks