

**Greenway Technical Committee  
Meeting Notes  
Grand Forks Park District Conference Room  
10:30 AM Tuesday, October 14, 2003**

**Participants:**

Steve Mullally, Grand Forks Park District  
Melanie Parvey-Biby, City of Grand Forks  
Ryan Brooks, MPO  
Sgt. Keith Schroeder, GF Police Dept.  
John Winter, MN DNR  
Gladwyn Lynne, MN DNR  
Helen Cozzetto, MN DNR  
Ann Sande, Friends of the Greenway

Kiley Clapper, Downtown Leadership Group  
Lonnie Winrich, ND State Representative  
Corey Birkholz, Options  
Randy Sorenson, Options  
Steve Renslow, RR Snowmobile Club  
Ron Bubendorf, RR Snowmobile Club  
Kim Greendahl, City of Grand Forks

**OLD BUSINESS (Information distributed prior to meeting)**

**August 12, 2003 meeting minutes:** The following corrections were made: The Friends of the Greenway Chili Cook Off raised \$2,200. The drainage problem in the Chili Cook Off area has not been repaired. Accepted with corrections.

In order to streamline future meetings, information regarding old business will be sent prior to meeting.

**Media Tour:** The tour will begin at 9:00 AM on October 15 from the parking lot of the Grand Forks Curling Club. The city of Grand Forks Trolley will provide transportation. Media representatives have been invited and informational packets will be distributed at that time. Ann requested that she be allowed to participate in the tour. The group was reminded that the tour had been offered in August for Technical Committee members and that this tour was focusing on educating the media. If there is enough interest from the members of the Greenway Technical Committee, a tour could be arranged.

**Final Greenway Map**

Revisions have been sent to Bryce Anderson, Interpretive Services Department of Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR).

**Discussion:**

- Is it possible/desirable to add the levee line on map? The MPO stated that there might be problems getting the current levee map, as it changes frequently.
- Representatives from Options noted that the existing restrooms in Riverside and Sherlock Parks are not ADA accessible; therefore the legend is incorrect. The restrooms in Riverside do not currently meet ADA standards, but will after construction is completed. Options has met with Dale Skyberg regarding the accessibility issue at Sherlock Park, but there is no money to fix the problem. There is a concern about the restrooms being locked during the daytime. EGF closes restrooms September 1, but the Grand Forks Park District plans to keep the Grand Forks restrooms open year round.

**Action Item: The Sherlock Park restroom will be discussed at the next Greenway Technical Staff meeting.**

- Take the snowmobile symbol off the map and add to winter map.

- Informational kiosks for GF aren't all listed.
- Request to add railroad tracks and road to river @ LaFave for better visitor orientation. Helen will contact Bryce with this request.
- The committee would like to consider producing summer and winter use maps in the future to avoid cluttered maps. The snowmobile and cross-country ski map could coordinate with each other.
- The managing agencies should consider posting the maps on north side so the sun does not fade the map.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Signage Policy for Greenway:** The Greenway will have an abundance of signs, such as directional signs, kiosks, as well as for programs such as Adopt a Trail programs. Some locations already have too many signs. How will it be determined what the appropriate balance is for signage? A draft policy for signage in the Greenway was distributed. (Attached)

**Action Item: Discuss signage policy at the next Technical Staff meeting next month.**

**Friends of the Greenway (FOGW) Update:** A meeting was held last night, with a presentation on the proposed aquatics center from Catch the Wave representatives. Copy of the GF City Council resolution was distributed. (Attached) Copy of aquatics center was distributed. (Attached) The FOGW Board voted unanimously to support sales tax increase. The conclusion on water park issue was that it does not fit within the mission of the Friends of the Greenway and therefore they would not take a stand on the issue. Mike Pokrywinski is working with Tom Dennis of the Grand Forks Herald to produce a viewpoint column. A letter will be submitted by the FOGW before Thursday that they are hoping is printed in the Sunday GF Herald. As the Vice President and Grand Forks resident, Ann Sande will speak to the Herald on the results of the FOGW meeting and how they reached their conclusions.

The FOGW meeting scheduled for October 22 has been cancelled. The FOGW were asked to notify managing agencies of the cancellation. The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources feels it is important that all agencies are represented at these meetings to build better communications and partnerships.

More cooks are needed for the chili cook off next year. Enrollment has grown, but they can accommodate even more.

**Greenway Winter Trails:** The Red River Valley Snowmobile Club erects and takes down trail signage each season. If a universal sign is desired, this could be added to sign policy. Education is crucial to minimizing user conflicts. The snowmobile club has received \$5,000 for printing of maps. In the future it may be possible to give snowmobile groups some funding for additional maps to be distributed. Generally, the snowmobile trail follows the line of trees and sometimes goes through the trees. Will Gosnold of the cross-country ski group expressed interest in creating a map. EGF does not plow multi-purpose trails in winter, but Grand Forks does, when time allows. It has not been determined whether Grand Forks will plow Greenway trails.

Will snowmobiles be allowed on bridges? No decision has been made at this time. The tracks on the snowmobiles are damaging to the concrete, so it may be desirable to place something

down to prevent damage. Special matting or snow may be the solution. It was proposed to put "No Snowmobiling" signs in park area EGF and place posts to designate trails.

**Directional Signage off Interstate and near Grand Cities:** The MN DNR made a request to state of North Dakota to erect a sign on Interstate 29 to direct travelers to the Red River State Recreational Area. That application was denied based on a number of issues. Earl Haugen explained the process generally used to make determinations regarding signage placement and quantity, in which the ND Department of Transportation has final jurisdiction of the Interstate and highways. It is not unusual for states to decline requests from neighboring states in favor of requests from in state agencies. He suggested that the MN DNR make their request a part of an application made in partnership with a North Dakota entity.

**Action item: John Winter will work 4-5 individuals to create a plan bring back to the Greenway Technical Committee for support.**

The Trailblazing plan has been approved by both City Councils. The cities need to request that the Department of Transportation take action on this plan before it will be activated.

**Next meeting date: December 9, 2003 10:30 am Grand Forks Park District.**

**Upcoming Events and Meetings:**

- **Greenway Event: Veteran's Day Race- November 11, 2003, 11 am at Lincoln Drive Park**
- **Technical Subcommittee Managing Agencies Meeting- November 18, 2003, 11 am Grand Forks Park District Office**

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