

**Greenway Technical Committee
Meeting Notes
Grand Forks Park District Conference Room
10:30 AM November 12, 2002**

Karl McKinnon	John Winter	Helen Cozzetto
Traie Dockter	Corey Birkholz	Mary Broten
Kim Greendahl	Ann Sande	Lane Magnuson
Steve Mullally	Melanie Parvey-Biby	Marty Egeland
Ryan Brooks		

Chairperson Steve Mullally welcomed everyone. Introductions were done.

Update on map progress: Melanie reviewed the recreational maps for the committee. The map will evolve over time and highlights bike paths, trails, and routes. Someday it may include paved and unpaved trails, as well as snowmobile trails. The group would like to consider develop winter use and summer use maps for users.

The MPO is planning to take aerial photos in the spring. The complete study area will include both cities plus a two mile radius beyond the city limits.

Rules & Regulations: The Greenway Technical Staff Committee, with other interested parties, is working on developing a set of Greenway Rules and Regulations. It is the goal of the committee to develop a document that deals with issues that affect Greenway users and law enforcement, such as alcohol, animals, boating, etc. After completion, each agency will forward the document to their agency and legal counsel for input. The next meeting is scheduled for December 16 10 am at the Grand Forks Park District and will last several hours.

Greenway is an important economic development tool and all aspects of its development will need to be addressed before it is completed. There are many questions that still have not been addressed, but will require consideration. DLG will be holding a Art Fest downtown in 2003 and in 2004 would like to use the Greenway, need to consider a number of things such as whether or not we would allow spikes in the ground. Catfish Days may be a model of how other events can be held in that area.

Enforcement will be an important element of how the Greenway will operate. Jurisdiction of the trail system is an issue of current concern. In Minnesota, the trails are city property until they are handed over to DNR. Until then, enforcement is the concern of the City of East Grand Forks. East Grand Forks signs along the trails are not current and need to be updated with the current laws. Grand Forks was approached with a request for snowmobile event in the Greenway for this Jan. The area is in conflict with another event. This may be an opportunity for East Grand Forks. It may be beneficial to work with a committee when event requests are posed to managing agencies.

Communication will be crucial when the entire system is open to the public. At this time information regarding events and activities in the Greenway are not circulated to all agencies. This system can cause user overlap and miscommunication of needs. Ideally, a central location would be identified to funnel information to all necessary agencies and also assist users with questions. Discussion whether to ask the GGF Convention and Visitors Bureau to act as the central contact point for the Greenway. It

is not clear if this fits role of the CVB, or if they function is to post information regarding events for visitors. The committee will consider asking them to participate in Special Events Committee with Greenway. Steve will talk with John Staley regarding how the Convention and Visitors Bureau might be of assistance to the project. Both Chambers should be involved as well. Because of their location, the Dakota Science Center may also be a natural for a visitor's center.

As user activity escalates, and larger events may be developed for the Greenway, it may become necessary to implement a permitting policy and location. A special events procedure plan was drafted for the City of Grand Forks. No action was ever taken on that project. Perhaps this committee should consider doing this with the Greenway as well, and including the Convention and Visitors Bureau and both Chambers in the routing.

List of all these things and where they are available in the Greenway such as electrical, restrooms, parking, etc.

DNR has special event permit packet and process for groups hosting events in state parks. The size of attendance dictates how it is handled administratively. Mary has a copy of this.

The Marketing Services Partnership project being developed through the Knight Foundation may be one more opportunity to promote the Greenway.

Active Living by Design: This is funding opportunity that has been discussed with a number of people at the table. The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation funds this multi year grant. Funding is over a five year period, with a maximum total of \$200,000. One requirement of the application is to bring together representatives of different disciplines with a priority to highlight active living lifestyles.

The Corps is financing a number of recreational pieces in the Greenway Project. However, the committee would like to consider seeking funding for amenities such as mile markers or signage encouraging additional aerobics activities. A "loop system" documenting mileage for users to plan their walks/runs was also suggested. A promotional piece was also a consideration. Applications should come out in mid November. The group will meet again when the application is released.

OTHER:

Vince Ames is designing a butterfly garden at Dakota Science Center paid for by the Horticulture Society. A web cam will be focused on the garden and in the winter may serve as a weather cam.

Volksmarch: DNR participated in this although struggled with it because offices not open long enough to give them their pins/paperwork for doing the walk. Have one in Prairie Rose State Games.

Greenway Award: The American Society of Landscape Architects Honor Award for the Greenway Project was on display during the meeting.

Upcoming meetings:

Non Paved Trail Plan Open House December 10, 2002 5:00 PM – 7:00 PM East Grand
Forks Campbell Library
Greenway Technical Staff Committee meeting December 16, 2002 10 AM at the Grand
Forks Park District
Greenway Technical Committee meeting February 11, 2003 10:30 AM at the Grand
Forks Park District

Minutes submitted by Kim Greendahl, Greenway Specialist