

Greenway Technical Committee Meeting May 14, 2002

In attendance: Lane Magnuson (MPO), Randy Sorensen (Options), Corey Birkholz (Options), Lynn Schlueter (NDGF), Melanie Parvey-Biby (GF Greenway), Marty Egeland (NDGF), John Winter (MN DNR), Helen Cozzetto (MN DNR), Ryan Brooks (MPO), Stephen Mullally (GF Park District), Greg Boppre (Floan-Sanders), Traie Dockter (DLG), Ann Sande (Friends of the Greenway), Ben Ehreth (GF Greenway)

I. Introduction - Steve Mullally, Grand Forks Park District

III. Grant Possibilities (Eastman Kodak American Greenway Awards) – John Winter or Helen Cozzetto, MN DNR

Distributed information on the Eastman Kodak Grant. Suggestion that grants could be more beneficial to groups like Lincoln Park Neighborhood Committee. From reading the document feel that preference would go to non-profit groups. Wide variety of projects for possibilities, maybe something this group would be interested in. Signage is another option for grant possibilities. Options mentioned their interest in signs with audio capability for people with low vision. Maybe this is something that as a non-profit we could write a grant for. Grant due March 1 – June 1 each year, deadline is coming up. It's an annual occurrence, maybe something for next fall. Who can apply? Anyone, but preference is given to non-profit organizations. These are not big grants. Consider the possibility of working with ecological assessment and inventory for schools. Suggestion that this would be appropriate for Lincoln Dr. Committee if they need to hire a memorial planner. Maybe something for next year. Is only one grant given to each project or multiple? Not sure, something that should be checked into. Keep as an option for next year or something we should pursue this year? Not sure if there is an adequate amount of time to research possibilities for this year. Should this committee go on record supporting a group applying for the grant? Consensus-Yes, if they need a letter. Consensus-Think additional research is needed.

II. Mapping Update – Greg Boppre, Floan & Sanders

Greg-Distributed maps that provide an example as to the work that has been done on the maps. Described meeting with Melanie Parvey-Biby, Greg Boppre, Mark Lambrecht, Todd Herz, Adam Jonasson, and Mark Anderson. Mark put together map of Greenway in East Grand Forks. Map features include: Flood Protection Project, Greenway, Bikepath, and shows Campground. Looking at, as a group, highlighting specific areas of interest and blowing them up. Grand Forks hasn't had opportunity to work on mapping yet. Both sides will be merged onto one map. Suggestions to have more details on the trailheads. Suggestion to add fishing sites. Right now want to have information from the Corps project and what we know for certain.

What's the process of defining fishing sites in Grand Forks? Melanie-Continue to use this committee and fishing people, to prioritize fishing points then take to next appropriate level. Funding has not been identified at this point for hardsurfacing or maintenance of these sites.

Boat ramp and angler access should remain two separate issues. Seems like many areas are accessible because fishing locations are in former back yards. Current access is good but in the future, vegetation may change and areas might not be as accessible. Need to work out where hard-surface fishing sites are located vs. locations that will be fished regardless of whether it is defined as a fishing site or not. East Grand Forks is having problems with vehicles driving down near the point area, need to decide what will

be done about it. Grand Forks is having some problems with individuals dumping trash in construction areas. Need to notify public that it costs money if they continue to do so.

Suggestion to enlarge the map so that a lot more information could be placed on it. Important to note that it is just a draft copy at this point. Would be nice to see proposed development, think of the maps as more of a planning document. Maps can be any size we need them to be. Suggestion to add existing bike paths to show connections. We could come to a "base map" that is agreed upon and add features as necessary. Who is going to house the mapping? This hasn't been discussed. When features are mapped it helps demonstrate scale of the project. Could be helpful to capture funding. What about cost? Is MPO grant available? If it is defined in the work plan, funding may be available next year. Discussed having updated aerial photos through the MPO. MPO work program for 2003 is put together around August.

Is there a plan for placement of signs and kiosks? There in the plans but feel map would be congested if every feature were identified. Essentially specific features could be added as a separate layer. At least get what is really going to be done on the maps, then develop additional maps from there. Maybe at the next mapping meeting we (GF/EGF) get together and do a common inset, maybe of downtown area for next meeting. Question was asked if signage in downtown will be different on either side? No. What may be different is the interpretive signage. More formal areas will have more formal signs. Idea is that the whole thing has a uniform look. (Design Palette was created for this purpose)

Could be problem with trail since it is 14ft on Grand Forks side and 10ft on East Grand Forks side. East Grand Forks doesn't see it as a problem. MPO mentioned that no connections over the bridges are 14ft. so people probably won't notice.

IV. Signage/Kiosks-Melanie Parvey-Biby, City of Grand Forks

Melanie-Describes Kiosks and bases for signs in Phase I. Corps will not provide signage, simply the base. Handed out examples of National Park Service signage. Will have two kiosks in the downtown area of Grand Forks. Kiosks in East Grand Forks and Grand Forks are from the same design palette. Melanie-Large interpretive areas are in Lincoln and Central. What about Riverside? Design is just beginning.

Should be information on trail length and slope. Design palette is based on DNR standards and since it's a federal project, everything has to be ADA accessible. USACE is designing everything to be under 5% grade. Information should be available at trailheads. Other signage issues are visual.

We would be developing the "You are here" maps, and feel this is a good working group to deal with that issue. North Dakota Game and Fish mentioned that they have seen some aluminum laser etched signs, which are not that expensive and look nice. Maybe there should be a smaller group to work on this just like the mapping. Form a subcommittee- Melanie and Helen will work on this. DNR has are own signs that we've done for a long time. Most important signs with consistency is the "You are here". "You are here" signs vs. interpretive as two separate issues. Need to get signs up right away so people know where they are in the trail system. Question was asked if City of Grand Forks could contract with the DNR to make the signs? Maybe we could swap services in-kind. Think we could do whatever, just need to figure out how we want to do it.

Question on whether or not the Corps has given any indication about what he wants on the signs and Kiosks? We only have what was done through the design palette. The Corps is not involved in what is being put in the Kiosks. Need to coordinate what should go in them so when they are up there is something ready to place in them. Information placed in Kiosks needs to be draft or working documents. Can DLG participate? Traie-Would like to be involved in coordination of signage, no source of funding currently. Downtown will be first area done on the project as a unit. Maybe concentrate on that area. Maybe what is being done with the maps will be sufficient at this point for the maps, East Grand Forks felt temporary maps could (like the one's being produced) could be placed in Kiosks, until project is more

finalized. Suggests forming subcommittee to form a beginning design for signs. Would at least like to get a temporary "You are here" sign up. Game and Fish representative liked the idea of Aluminum signs, less likelihood of vandalism more visually appealing.

Melanie-Showed slides of detailed designs of the various sign bases and kiosks in Phase I Grand Forks. Reasoning for wood kiosk in Lincoln Dr. Park? More casual and less formal. Only two choices for kiosks in design palette. Any kiosks in East Grand Forks Downtown? Not sure. Like the idea of working with the DNR signage personnel to keep a uniform look.

Sign Subcommittee- Would Like Bryce from the DNR to be involved. Melanie, Traie, Helen, and Corey volunteered for signage group. Corey-Handicapped signage is inconsistent but only one type is appropriate in North Dakota.

V. Greenway Award – Melanie Parvey-Biby, City of Grand Forks

Melanie- Distributed and read email from Charles Flink, Greenways Inc., describing the Honor Award given, at the Tri-State Regional Planning Conference, to the Greenway planning efforts.

Other Issues

Marty Egeland, ND Game and Fish Dept-Question for Melanie about getting State Parks involved in the Greenway? Melanie Parvey-Biby, City of Grand Forks-City Council has formed task force to get State involved. Don't have a proposal but looking at managing areas outside of what the Park District is doing. DNR mentioned they have support from Park Managers in the Valley.

Ann Sande, Friends of the Greenway-Concerned if elected to City Council may not be able to continue to participate in the Greenway Technical Committee. If elected would probably not continue to be on the Board of Friends of the Greenway.

Ryan Brooks, MPO-Would like a letter from each city in support of the MPO to do a flyover. Need it by August or September. ND Game and Fish mentioned that Red River recon study by the Corps will be taking LIDAR photos along the Red River Basin.

Next meeting: June 11, 200

Agenda items: Mapping Update- Greg Boppre
Greenway Signage- ?
Cities request to MPO- ?

Minutes submitted by Ben Ehreth, Greenway Specialist
May 22, 2002