

**Greenway Technical Committee
Meeting Notes
Grand Forks Park District Conference Room
10:30 AM Tuesday, August 12, 2003**

Participants:

Steve Mullally, Grand Forks Park District
Melanie Parvey-Biby, City of Grand Forks-
Greenway
Ryan Brooks, Metropolitan Planning
Organization
Sgt. Keith Schroeder, Grand Forks Police
Department
Scott McNamee, Local Fisherman
Brad Durrick, Local Fisherman

Bryce Anderson, MN DNR
John Winter, MN DNR
Gladwyn Lynne, MN DNR
Helen Cozzetto, MN DNR
Ann Sande, Friends of the Greenway
Traie Dockter, Downtown Leadership Group
Kim Greendahl, City of Grand Forks-
Greenway

Introductions were made. Members were reminded that a tour of portions of the Greenway would take place following the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Logo and Name: It was discussed at the May 2003 meeting that a Memorandum of Agreement or Joint Powers of Agreement be developed between the Friends of the Greenway (FOGW) and the Managing Agencies. Since then the Managing Agencies have received a memo from the FOGW stating they have decided not to pursue trade marking the logo. The FOGW also requested two items from the Managing Agencies: 1) the artwork originates only from Fine Print; 2) FOGW would unveil the logo. The City of Grand Forks issued a memo requesting that the unveiling of the logo include all Managing Agencies. No response has been received on that request.

A copy of the news release developed by the FOGW was distributed to the Managing Agencies during the meeting (Attached). This announcement is scheduled to be released to the media tomorrow (8/13/03) without a formal unveiling ceremony. Note: The graphic included in the news release was different from the logo approved by the Technical Committee.

Bryce advised the committee that in order to accommodate the green in the logo on the interpretive pieces and maps, either the banner color will have to change or the lettering will have to be reversed. He is working on that.

The logo with the rivers depicted in red in the Cottonwood leaf was adopted by the committee (Attached).

User Rules and Regulations: This document is still in the offices of the legal representatives of all managing agencies. A memo was sent out last week to all Managing Agency contacts regarding comments made by the Grand Forks City Attorney, Howard Swanson. (Attached)

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (MN DNR) will be meeting with their Central Office in St. Paul to discuss any concerns they may have regarding how this document fits with current MN DNR regulations. They may request some minor adjustment to the rules, but that

will be determined at a later date. The MN DNR recognizes the importance of the document and would like to move forward.

The MN DNR enforcement officer has been ticketing for some offenses. Gladwin, RRSRA Park Manager, has called upon city police when necessary. This has underscored the need to develop a consistent set of rules for the Greenway. The next step will be to publicize and post this document. Although the Grand Forks Herald provided some coverage of the document, repeated publicity is needed.

In Grand Forks, the ND Game and Fish enforces hunting and fishing rules only. They should be keeping in contact with the GF Police Department.

A local fishing group, the Red River Hookers, has posted an online petition protesting the no alcohol and closing at 11 pm policies. This has been signed by people in Minnesota, North Dakota, Canada, etc. Canada and other areas promote night fishing, and the park closing at 11 pm would prohibit that type of activity.

It is not the intent of the Police Department to prohibit legitimate recreational activity. It is designed as a tool used to get a vagrant out from under a picnic table at 3 am. If a person is in the park after 11 PM "Actively engaged in fishing" that person should not have a problem. The MN DNR side will not go for the exception in the rules, as their enforcement officers are trained to use good judgment in those types of situations.

MN DNR needs rules that are very clear and understandable. Night fishing happens in their parks all the time without incident. The MN DNR system caters to fisherman. They do, however, need a system of rules to enable law enforcement to carry out their duties.

Artifacts: Is there a section in the Greenway Rules and Regulations that prohibits the removal of artifacts? Yes, in the environmental protection section, page 3.

Greenway Ceremonies and Dedications: Work in Phase I of Grand Forks is not scheduled to be completed until October 31. For that reason it is not feasible to host a dedication ceremony. It may be more practical to host a small ceremony for publicity in the winter, with a grand opening in the spring. A ribbon cutting could then be done on interpretive pieces. Ann Sande will continue working with the Rotary Clubs for the Community Green dedication. The Grand Forks Police Department would like to have a display at the dedications.

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is hosting an official opening of the Red River State Recreational Area (RRSRA) on Sunday, June 6, 2004. This is a free day for parks within the state. The recreation areas and campground will be open to the public at that time. It was determined that the Dedications Committee consider promoting all the dedication events around that same time. Kim will bring this to Dedications Committee for consideration.

211 Program: At the May 2003 meeting it was suggested that the Greenway might want to be included in this program. 211 is set aside as a national program that assists with locating health and human services needs. After some discussion, it was determined that the Greenway project probably did not fit that mission.

NEW BUSINESS

Public Inquiries on the Greenway: The MN DNR East Grand Forks office is receiving calls about various aspects of the Greenway. Is there going to be a central location for fielding these calls? At this time there is no existing central location and each agency is responsible for fielding inquiries for their area, as well as forwarding inquiries that may be better suited to another Managing Agency.

The need to publicize the activities of the Greenway was discussed.

- How many addresses receive the Greenway Connections, published by the City of Grand Forks? Currently there are more than 2,400 printed.
- Is there a way to get it out to more? The City of Grand Forks currently staffs and funds this project. Their budget does not allow for a large expansion, but the Managing Agencies could consider contributing to this collaborative effort to expand the mailing list.
- Would it be beneficial to host a meeting with media how to get more information out to the public? Possibly. Can be discussed at the Greenway Technical Staff meeting.
- Is there a main website? No. The City of Grand Forks maintains a website and can post information sent to the Greenway office. This can be discussed at the next Greenway Technical Committee Staff meeting.

Friends of the Greenway Chili Cook-off: Ann reported that there were 22 competitors: 6 bean and 16 non-bean recipes. The event raised approximately \$1,500 of which \$1,000 was donated to Sherlock Forest Playground. There were some drainage problems at the site, but the city has fixed them.

Red River Valley Needs Assessment: Memo of June 20, 2003 from Dave Koland, Manager of the Garrison Diversion Conservancy District, was distributed (attached). Information has been shared looking for direct interest in recreation.

Promotions: A memo was recently sent by the City of Grand Forks to interested parties requesting financial participation in a brochure featuring the Greenway map and general information. The Friends of the Greenway would like to participate. Funding will come from Mayor Brown. Because of the MN DNR system, items like this should be requested a long time in advance.

Kim will get information on a summary brochure to Bryce to work with him on design.

Greenway Sign Policy: To be discussed at the next meeting.

**Next meeting date: October 14, 2003, 10:30 am Grand Forks Park District
November 11, 2003- Greenway Event: Veteran's Day Race**

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

Attachments: Greenway Logo News Release

Memo of 8-7-03 Re: Greenway User Rules and Regulations

Memo from Garrison Diversion Conservancy District (June 20, 2003 Dave Koland, Manager)

Red River Valley Water Needs and Options Draft front page- full report at www.rrvwsp.com/no/recneedsrep.pdf.