

**Greenway Technical Committee Staff
Meeting Notes
Grand Forks Park District
10:30 AM – Tuesday, August 8, 2006**

Dave Aaker, EGF Parks & Rec

Kim Greendahl, City of GF

Ann Sande, Friends of the Greenway

Discussion Items

- I. **Group Camp Site Proposal:** Kim had contacted a representative of the Boy Scouts with a request that they submit a proposal to the committee for consideration. No representative from the Boy Scouts was present. Tabled.
- II. **Draft of National Trails Designation Application:** Kim passed out a draft of the application to those present for review. The application is officially due in December, but the sooner it can be turned in the better. She asks that everyone get any changes to her as soon as possible and she hopes to have the application in by the end of this month. Review of the amenities listed on the application prompted some discussion; for instance trails are listed as being accessible twenty-four hours a day, however certain portions technically are closed after 10:30pm. Dave was also interested in where Melanie had found the high/low elevations she had listed. Kim will look into this.
- III. **EGF Campground Promotional Project:** Gladwin Lynne was unable to attend the meeting. This subject is tabled. Kim asks how late in the season the campground restrooms are expected to be open, and Dave says maybe as late as September 25, depending on when the lines are blown out to prevent winter freezing.
- IV. **Greenway Agency Updates:**
 - a. City of Grand Forks: Melanie Parvy-Biby has left the Greenway Project and accepted the position of Environmental Compliance Officer at the Public Works Facility. At the City Council meeting on Monday, August 7th the Greenway Ordinance passed the first reading. It was the opinion of the Council that this ordinance should be edited to remove language that is already covered by broader city-wide ordinances, for instance, leash laws. Once this is done, the Greenway Ordinances can be brought back to CoW for review.
 - b. City of East Grand Forks: Dave mentions that snowmobiles have done significant damage to their paved trails. During the last season, this was a non-issue for Grand Forks, as construction kept all the trails on the Grand Forks side out of commission. EGF has been approached by the snowmobile club about getting permission to use the pedestrian bridge as

a trail connector. Kim stated that GF has also been approached about this, but the general opinion at the last Flood Protection Committee meeting was that this represented a risk of damage to the bridge, trail approaches and grounds, not to mention the risk to pedestrians using the bridge. Kim feels that the best way to resolve the issue is to get a working group together to discuss all the options that would have representatives from the snowmobile club and the EGF/GF City. Dave announces that the East Grand Forks Parks & Recreations Director position, formerly held by Dale Skyberg, is being advertised until August 28th, and that they hope to have it filled by October 1st. He states that the EGF Civic Center is being refurbished with new restrooms, new plumbing and new insulation. He says the facility will be greatly improved.

V. Other

a. **Trails:** Dave says EGF has been experiencing a lot of problems with their trails being damaged due to motor vehicles, especially in the former location of the EGF campground. Due to the easy accessibility of their trails to motor vehicles, and the fact that there were once roads down there, people just assume they can still drive down. Ann suggests adding bollards so that cars will no longer be able to get onto the trail, but it is such an open area that the expense to effectively block access would be too great. Dave says he is considering the possibility of widening the existing trail and making it a combo trail/road. Grand Forks has an advantage of our trail system being widely inaccessible to cars, and having better signage around the access points. Ann asks what the fine is for driving on the trails, and Kim says she will look into it. Ann states that if there is no fine, technically, the offense is not punishable.

b. Events:

1. Catfish Days @ EGF Greenway - August 11-13
2. Bikes & Bites in EGF
3. Trail Trek/Tour the Trails @ Lincoln Drive Park – Sept. 9
4. Tour de Forks @ Lincoln Drive Park – Sept. 10

Next Greenway Technical Committee Meeting: September 12, 2006 – 10:30am @ Grand Forks Park District

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

