

**Greenway Technical Committee Staff
Meeting Notes
GF Park District Office Conference Room
10:30 am – December 13, 2005**

Steve Mullally, GF Park District
John Winter, MN DNR

Melanie Parvey-Biby, City of GF
Kim Greendahl, City of Grand Forks

Guests: Ann Sande, Friends of the GW
Lonnie Winrich
Sandy Donaldson, Central Park Neighborhood Association

- I. Trail Marker Options:** The trail marking plans (Greenway Trail Marking Plan Map 11-14-05) have been shared with several other committees for input. The Greenway Technical Committee, Friends of the Greenway, and Greater Grand Forks Metropolitan Bicycle Committee recommend implementing Plan A. The starting point for measuring has not been determined yet. The Metropolitan Bicycle Committee suggested starting in the oldest part of town. The committee determined that using the obelisk south of the Sorlie Bridge would be a good starting point as it is a local landmark and is located in the older section of the city. Measurement would be done in ½ mile increments for the larger trail and ¼ mile on shorter trails. Kilometers markings are important to consider-marking at the same location as trail mile markers for Canadian visitors, possibly by listing both measurements on the markers. This plan will be presented at the January Greenway Technical Committee meeting for input. The Greenway Technical Committee Staff recommends Plan A, using the obelisk as a starting point and marking in ½ mile increments.
- II. Greenway Map Update:** Updates should be sent to Kim by December 31. She will send the edits to Bryce for updating. Paper copies of the map will be used for the season until the project is substantially complete.
- III. Emergency Call Boxes:** Some Minnesota state parks have emergency call boxes, other parks across the nation are getting away from these. The greenway is not in the middle of nowhere so is this service necessary? Do emergency response personnel feel this is necessary? John Winter will find out what Minneapolis does/did with theirs.
- IV. Vandalism Deterrent Systems:** Usually installation is driven by vandalism happening in the parks. Two types of camera systems are available: cameras that record activity or fake cameras used only for show. The start up and maintenance costs for all the facilities would be expensive. The GF Park District talked about putting cameras up in other parks but decided not against because the cost of the equipment doesn't always justify the savings in repairs to damaged property. Liability and film quality were also areas of concern. The committee agreed that more use of an area will result in less vandalism.

V. Promotions Fund & Volunteer Recognition 2006: A reprint of brochure may be necessary this spring. There are 3,000 remaining in stock. The committee would like to consider using the pedestrian bridge as the cover photo this year. The committee would also like to place an ad in early 2006 in the Grand Forks Herald thanking all the volunteers who have helped on projects in 2005. Kim will look into the cost of this

VI. Other:

- a. Red River State Recreation Area:** The City of EGF and MN DNR will be meeting today to discuss RRRSTA ownership and working together. The MN DNR owns the campground, trailhead near Riverside and the access at Red Lake River. At this time the MN DNR is only able to provide five months of operation but would like the City to cut grass or other similar services. This would allow the MN DNR to do more with the budget dollars they have, possibly increasing staff hours.
- b. Snowmobiles:** Sandy Donaldson of South 4th Street, Grand Forks presented the committee with concerns regarding snowmobiles in her neighborhood. Her specific concern involves the area behind raw water intake and parking lot near the rest rooms becoming a drop off site for snowmobiles on trailers. Sandy stated that after flood charettes were held and it the outcome of that no snowmobiles would be allowed in this area. Has the greenway principle changed? Not necessarily; the project is always evolving. When asked to look into this matter, the Technical Committee felt a designated trail is better than nothing at all. Can there be a designated area for snowmobiles? EGF and GF allow snowmobilers in the Greenway, on designated trails. All routes in the GF portion of the Greenway are closed due to construction. The Committee suggested that Sandy call her Council representative and also write letters as a group/association. It is the role of the Council to decide if snowmobile routes should remain in the Greenway.

Next Greenway Technical Committee mtg. January 10, 2006 – 10:30 am at Grand Forks Park District

Next Greenway Technical Committee Staff mtg. February 14, 2006 - 10:30 am at Grand Forks Park District

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