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TO: Goodhue County Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Board

FROM: Jess Greenwood, Public Works Director

RE: 25 Jul 24 Park Board Meeting
Berg Memorial

Date: 18 Jul 24

Summary

It is requested that the Park Board review a memorial request by the family of Garrett Berg.

Background

Garrett Berg was killed in a cliff jumping mishap on the Boy Scout property just west of Bylesby Park on 09 Jun 20.

The family has requested a memorial at Bylesby Park for their son. The parents have inferred from previous meetings with county staff that Goodhue County is providing and installing this memorial. Current Public Works staff was not part of any of these meetings.

The previous Public Works Director had relayed to staff that the Berg Family would be providing some type of plaque that the County would install at the shelter closest to the trail near the cliffs, along the trail, a bench added along the trail, etc. as a warning to others thinking about trespassing and jumping off the cliffs.

In conversations with the Berg family, staff has been informed that the Berg family does not want a memorial over near the cliffs at all and does not want a plaque as a warning.

It is requested that the Park Board discuss this request and determine if a memorial for this situation is well suited for the Bylesby Park property, what type of memorial would be permitted, if the County should cover the cost to purchase and/or install the memorial, or if another type of donation that meets previous donation standards discussed at the 25 Jan 24 Park Board meeting would be more appropriate if the family is willing to do so.

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