



**Jess Greenwood, P.E.**  
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TO: Goodhue County Parks, Trails, and Recreation Advisory Board

FROM: Jess Greenwood, Public Works Director

RE: 15 Aug 25 Park Board Meeting  
**Park Update**

Date: 28 Jul 25

Summary

County Commissioners Anderson, Greseth, Flanders, and Betcher toured the Nielsen Memorial Preserve on 06 May 25. Commissioners Flanders and Betcher were not in favor of funding major development projects at the park at this time. Public Works staff plans to incorporate only small improvement projects in order to perform natural resources management work in the coming years. This will include working with Kenyon and Richland townships to develop better equipment access into the park, an access road, a small parking lot in order to bring equipment into the park and stage materials, and very rustic trail development in order to gain accessibility to the entire property and perform natural resource management (primarily buckthorn removal, and possibly some reed canary grass control at this time). Staff anticipates that better access to fully experience the park, although minimal, may improve chances of future project funding.

Small improvements have been completed at Byllesby Park this season: the lettering has been installed on the Richard Samuelson Pavilion, the remaining native plantings have also been installed, and many connections have been made to local businesses and organizations to offer information on community activities in the display boards inside the pavilion. Over the fall and winter, staff will be working on identification plaques for the native species in the landscape, as well as interpretive displays and maps in the kiosk.

To complete the requirements of the Byllesby Park Pavilion & Essential Services Project, staff is currently looking for parcels or portions of parcels that may be purchased and annexed to Byllesby Park or the Cannon Valley Trail. Back in 2002, Goodhue County granted the Mansfields (now Eilens) an easement to build part of their septic system on Goodhue County property, not realizing that this was in violation of a prior federal and state grant agreement. The County must now convert that property out of the LAWCON/LWCF program and add a new acquisition of equal or greater value to the program.

**Find your Good here.**



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Plans have been finalized for the Kullman rehabilitation project adjacent to Byllesby Park. The project will address encroachment, grading, and turf establishment issues. Land Use Management is currently working on notices to the Kullmans and determining access and property delineations in relation to this project. Public Works has created a proposal for the project and hopes to advertise this project for bidding as soon as Land Use Management has completed their work. This late in the year, construction is not anticipated until spring 2026.

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