



was Royal Oaks Park in 1966, which he helped plan, design, develop and choose the name, which later served as the inspiration for the community of the same name. The plaque reads:

*In Memory of Warren Church, 1929-2017*

*“Father of the Monterey County Parks”*

*Supervisor Church helped found and establish the Monterey County Parks Department and Royal Oaks Park in 1966, the first in the Monterey County Parks system. Looking back on his tenure on the Board of Supervisors from 1965-1977, Supervisor Church said he tried to protect “the people’s land, the people’s water...for the people’s descendants who haven’t even been born.”*

*Parks Make Life Better!*

DISCUSSION:

The cost of the memorial bench including shipping was \$1,048. The edging and decomposed granite surface material was \$525, the cost for the boulders was \$520 and brass plaque totaled \$538. Park Staff did the installation, with support from individuals fulfilling their required community service obligations. The total donation is \$2,631; the original estimate was \$2,500.

The family had agreed to cover all costs necessary to complete the project. It was also understood that the memorial bench would come to the County with no obligations or stipulations and there is no contractual agreement. The county would maintain and inspect the bench as a part of the regular maintenance practices and the impact or addition to staff time or workload is considered to be minor and have no intensification to regular duties. As stated in the March 2018 staff report, the County would not be able to guarantee anything beyond regular, standard observation and maintenance, which is simply inspection for loose boards, fasteners or broken items. There could be a potential for removal of the bench due to any unforeseen issues, vandalism and future maintenance.

Now that installation is complete, the bench is property of the County.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

No other agency involvement is necessary.

FINANCING:

The family has covered all costs necessary to complete the project.

Prepared by: John Akeman, Parks Planning Manager

Approved by: Carl P. Holm, AICP, RMA Director/Interim Parks Director

Attachments:

- A. Park Policy for Selecting Names and Identifying Park Area
- B. Proposed Bench
- C. Former 1<sup>st</sup> District Supervisor Warren Church (1965-77) and the founding of Monterey County Parks Dept.