

# TOWN OF ST. GERMAIN

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OFFICE OF THE CLERK

P.O. BOX 7

ST. GERMAIN, WISCONSIN 54558

[www.townofstgermain.org](http://www.townofstgermain.org)

## MINUTES PUBLIC HEARING: PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE JUNE 29, 2005

The purpose of the hearing was to gather information in order to make logical decisions about present and future needs as it pertains to town soccer and baseball facilities.

Committee chairman, Lee Christensen, opened the meeting by noting that this was a duly called meeting in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Law.

Committee Members present: Lee Christensen, Peggy Nimz, Louise Caroselli, Tom Caroselli. Other committee members Walt Camp, Rod Ingram, Bill Sunderlage, Mark Wallen, and Joe Kosceilniak.

Mr. Christensen asked for comments from the floor:

Ryan Nimz stated that he thought that the town needed more baseball fields.

Gary Schmidt noted that St. Germain was not a retirement community. Mr. Schmidt stated that there were many good businesses that supported tourism. St. Germain is a great place to retire, but the town also needs families and their children to keep the economy growing. If creating more playing fields will help accomplish this, the town should build them.

Brandon Thompson thought that we should have more baseball fields.

Ryan Thompson also wanted more baseball fields.

Jim Caroselli stated that he grew up wanting to be a professional baseball player. He stated that the town should provide more fields. Mr. Caroselli also stated that he had realized park of his dream. He was playing semi-pro baseball with the Bandits. He still hopes someday to play in the Major Leagues.

Tom Caroselli said that he coached the 10 to 12 year old Little League. There is too much competition for fields. There is only one field for the Little League to use. Sometimes the Little League games overlap with the men's softball league games. The men's league kicks the kids off of the field. With more fields, the town could host tournaments and receive the proceeds. Mr. Caroselli also stated that idle hands get into trouble. Mr. Caroselli also added that it is difficult for parents to take their kids to fields in both St. Germain and Sayner on the same night.

Peggy Nimz noted that the Housing Authority, Golf Course, Grade School, Fire Department, and proposed bike trail all had to go through the process. Ms. Nimz stated that it was time for the Parks & Recreation to start the process for expanding the playing fields. The parks could be not just soccer and baseball, but also for volleyball, a driving range, horsehoses, a band shell, etc. These things need to be done now, not 10 to 30 years into the future.

Doug Christensen also noted that more needed to be done for the kids. However, Mr. Christensen was concerned about whether or not the fields were being used to their full potential. He stated that there should be a field manager, so that nobody gets kicked off of a field. Does the town really need the new fields now?

Susie Gieger stated that she had four kids who have gone through the soccer program and baseball program. Ms. Gieger also stated that it was very difficult trying to schedule the facilities. The kids need places to go. The town needs to conduct a study to see what

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should be done. Ms. Gieger also noted that her son had helped with the skateboard park. He was very proud of what had been done.

Bill Pfiefer thought that the kids needed more fields.

Fred Radtke said that he was all in favor of the new fields if we really needed them. If there are scheduling problems, why aren't the fields being used every night? The committee should conduct a study. Three Lakes has a very nice park facility. Yet, it seems as though it isn't used very much. Mr. Radtke also suggested that the circle in the center of Holiday Estates could be used as a park. Mr. Radtke also stated that the more active youth are, the less trouble they get into.

Louise Caroselli stated that she was a K-12 P.E. teacher. She has also worked with older people. Ms. Caroselli also said that it was very inconvenient for parents to get their kids to practices or games before 4:30 or 5:00 P.M. There is a desperate need for more fields for people of all ages. There could be hiking trails, picnic areas, skating rinks, areas for cross country skiing and snowshoes. The parks would include kids and parents.

There were no further comments. Mr. Christensen closed the hearing.

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Town Clerk