

**SARTELL CITY COUNCIL AND BOARDS/COMMISSIONS
SPECIAL JOINT MEETING**

MINUTES OF JUNE 18, 2018

Pursuant to due call and notice thereof, a special joint meeting was held on June 18, 2018, at Sartell City Hall. Acting Mayor Lynch called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

COUNCIL PRESENT:	Pat Lynch, Mike Chisum, Ryan Fitzthum, David Peterson
COUNCIL ABSENT:	Sarah Jane Nicoll
PLANNING COMMISSION:	Tim Elness, Abby Legatt
PARK COMMISSION:	Dave Lindbloom, Rachel Lolmasteymaugh, Diane Schellinger, Jeff Kolb (also on EDC)
ECON DEV COMMISSION:	Ben Drewes, Bruce Stainbrook, Jeff Kolb
CVB ADVISORY BOARD:	Nikki Sweeter, Kris O'Brien, Jason Mathiasen
ALSO PRESENT:	Anita Archambeau, Community Development Director, John Kothenbeutel, Public Works Director, Jon Halter, City Engineer, and Mary Degiovanni, City Administrator

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN ANNUAL REPORT

Archambeau overviewed the annual report and outlined priorities for 2018/2019. Elected and appointed officials were asked to give input on priorities to add or drop. Discussion points included:

- Clarifying that public/private art priority is broad and can range from more public art installations to continuing the partnership with Community Ed on art classes at the Community Center.
- Community involvement is important at the neighborhood level and with community events in Sartell to help maintain Sartell's small town feel.
- Combined efforts of Community Ed, Community Center, Chamber & HVS to jointly message and communicate helps build our identity and the strength of community.
- Being agile in our communication efforts is important. Cities have required legal notice language but doing things like Park Commission's Community Conversations, Facebook live broadcasting of Council meetings, etc. are often more effective. Act less like a traditional City and more like a marketing company for what Sartell has to offer.
- The Community Conversations taking place at parks have been well received and also provide good input in a comfortable, neighborhood building environment.
- Engaging with the river and promoting Sartell as a River City.
- Actively recruiting business to Sartell was discussed, and retaining existing businesses through retention visits was prioritized.
- City, Chamber & HVS should work together to promote supporting Sartell businesses.
- Discussed how to get more community input and since City's board and commission members are such a good cross-section of the community, some thought getting that input is a better strategy.
- Engaging community through neighborhood gatherings could be a way to get input while also building neighborhood strength – has been very effective for Park Commission's Community Conversations.

- EDC has held some of their meetings at local businesses to combine with retention visits.

STRENGTHS, WEAKNESSES, OPPORTUNITIES & THREATS

All present were asked to identify strengths, weaknesses, opportunities or threats:

- Community Conversations working very well
- City's trail system is used a lot
- Art is an opportunity, and the area is an arts hub; the river is also an opportunity
- Convention & Visitor's Bureau is a great opportunity
- Engage with the river
- Developing the City's identity
- Sartell is good to work with, and not all cities are that way, but as we grow, we need to keep our connectivity and neighborhood, small-town feel
- Challenge is all staying on the same page, so we are working toward common goals
- Failure to follow the intent of the Orderly Annexation Agreement is a threat we need to address
- Public safety is a threat if we can't keep up with community policing as we grow
- Lack of affordable single-family housing is a weakness; we have enough apartments
- City staff are seen as a strength; opportunity is finishing 23rd Street South to make important commercial connection
- Opportunity is continuing to build upon the City-Sartell School partnership
- The idea of increasing communications strategies and thinking more like a marketing company and less like a City is an exciting opportunity
- School District is a strength; industrial development and growing the community safely are two opportunities
- Build pride about Sartell, but not to the point of elitism; collaboration among City & School important, but also with the various associations in Sartell like recreation associations, etc.
- Lack of things that draw non-residents to Sartell is a weakness; creating a unique identity is an opportunity; ability to manage growth is a threat
- Housing Challenge where there's a missing stage from apartment living to larger single family homes (few townhomes, etc)
- 2 lane Riverside Avenue is a weakness; Lake Francis rather than the river may be a more realistic/affordable priority; geese on the trails is a threat

ADJOURN

The Acting Mayor thanked everyone for their input and discussion and adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Mary Degiovanni, City Administrator

Pat Lynch, Acting Mayor