

Ridgefield Prevention Council Minutes

May 29, 2024

7:00 pm @ Town Hall

Mission: The Ridgefield Prevention Council supports a safe and healthy environment for all Ridgefield families through awareness, education and positive alternatives to alcohol and other substance use and to reduce high-risk youth behaviors

"Ridgefield Prevention Council meetings will be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order and all participants are expected to conduct themselves with dignity and treat all those present with respect, empathy and civility."

Attendance: Kim Carone, Karen Facini, Sarah Lorenzini, Siera Fregosi, LouAnn Daprato, Liz Tidwell, Brian Nash, Christine More, Tina Malhotra, Will Knispel

Call to Order: 7:07 pm

Approval of Minutes: Approval of minutes from March and April- 1st motion by LouAnn Daprato, 2nd by Karen, all in favor- Approved

Treasurer report: No report given

Reports/Discussion:

- Narcan Trainings: Sarah completed training on Super Cert Saturday. Boys & Girls Staff happening May 30th. RHS happening June 4th.
- Thrift Shop Grant: Photo receiving the grant has been posted on social media. The event will be on September 22nd, 6:30pm @ the Playhouse. The movie will be Screenagers. They have already begun to market the event. We spoke about possibly having 2 guest speakers. LouAnn to reach out to Denise Santangelo (Spire Therapy) and Liz Jorgensen to see if they would be interested in being on the panel.
- RPC Survey: Louann to run some questions through AI to see what ideas come up.
- R.E.A.L Discussion & Vote: We decided to hold off on this (as the cost is too much alone for us to sustain), and wait to see what happens after Rudy speaks with Silver Hill regarding a trial membership through them (with a cost). If we did decide to move forward on our own, we would need partners. Could reach out to industry professionals in the community to see if they would be interested. Would recommend bringing Pat back in to speak to all of them at once to show the value in the program.
- Social Media/Web Plan Discussion & Vote: The costs presented were- New website created \$1500 (one time fee), \$75 per month to host the site (\$900 per year), Engagement on site \$500 per month, Social Media Management- 10 posts per month (about 2-3 per week) \$250 a month, There is a Management Fee for Social Media Advertisement \$200 per month for hosting events. A fundraising button is needed for us to bring in needed funds (outside of the grants we currently apply for). A vote will be held until after our meeting in June.
 - Concerns came up regarding our current financial complications with the town (how a button wouldn't work due to the fact all our funds go into 1 bank account that the town holds). As well as the need to separate ourselves as our own non-profit. It was requested that we ask Rudy Marconi to attend our next meeting so we can discuss RPC's future sustainability and growth

potential in Ridgefield. It was voted on that our next meeting would be June 25th.

New Business:

- 40 Developmental Asset Event- Moved to October (10/16) at the library. Concerns were made about the name (sounds like financial planning. Will work on an intro name to the actual name for new promotion.
- Coaches Role Models- When we met with Rudy, it was suggested that since RPC was hosting a 40 Developmental Asset Event for parents, if we could create something for town coaches. Our kids coaches are adults who impact their lives and have the opportunity to make an impact on their future, and currently there is no training offered like this. Sarah will ask Conor if he can make something work for the end of July. Kim will get a list of coaches together (via google sheets) and send it around.
- Part Time Position with the town/WCTC- Rudy has put in for a part time position to be shared with WCTC (20 hours with RPC/ 20 hours with WCTC) where Allison Fulton will be hiring the person.
- Vape Bags- closing out 2024 (and looking ahead to next year) our grant funds once again focus on VAPE. Kathy Hanley had great “quite vaping” bags at the WCTC meeting. We'd like to purchase 20 for each middle school and the high school for our Kids in Crisis Counselors to have for students. Louann Made the 1st motion and Karen made the 2nd motion, everyone was all in favor of making the purchase of 60 bags total.
- Vape Products- Siera would like to purchase vape products for display at our table outings. Everyone was in agreement that this is a great idea. This will be something to be used for our 2024-25 grant funds.
- SOR Wellness Bags- Kim brought a completed wellness bag for all to see. We stuffed our SOR bags with “kid friendly” RPC toys and such, along with gift cards for families and snacks. NCL will be stuffing the bags this weekend and Kim will be dropping them off to Tony on Monday June 3rd.

Adjourned: 8:26pm

Respectively submitted,

Kim Carone