



## **Ridgefield Prevention Council Minutes**

**July 30th, 2025**

**6:00 pm @ SpireTHERAPY**

**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:** Denise Santangelo & Sera Facini

**Call to Order:** 6:05pm

**Approval of Minutes:** Minutes from June 2025 meeting approved, Denise & Siera made a motion, all in favor- Minutes approved.

**Treasurer report:** None – treasurer not present.

### **Reports/Discussion:**

#### Chairperson's Report by Denise Santangelo

- Local Prevention Council Grant Final Report - completed and submitted by Kim Carone to Conor Burke @ cburke@wctcoalition.org
- Survey Sent out to Town - Denise created new survey, approved by Karen F. and Kim C. and sent to Town - Gillian for dissemination
- Review Event Dates/Calendar Plan & Budget info for 25-26 - continue to review, assign volunteers, and budget;
- Hired Siera to do website and Social Media presence.
  - WEBSITE LOOKS GREAT - CHANGING COLORS AND NEW LOGO POSSIBILITY...Siera to do options for us

- Events Upcoming - Reports & Budget by Each of the Coordinator's per their events:
  - Denise Santangelo -Chair
    - September Start: SpireBALL - Wiffle Ball League
    - SEPTEMBER 4, 2025: Pizza & Prevention in the Park: Real Talk on Teens & Mental Health
    - October 15, 2025: Movie Night - collab w/Playhouse?: A Beautiful Boy (2018) -
  - Brian Nash - Recovery Event in September?

### **New Business:**

**SpireBALL: Location - permanent location and pop up location; league sign ups and team creation and uniforms. Summer/Fall location - plan to start in September when all kids are home and play until mid-October-Nov (weather); Winter location..will reach out to options for November on for indoor play.**

- \*\*\*Pick a start date and start advertsing - website/social media/ flyers around town - local businesses. Use game changer app for sign-ups and coordinating game times/players, etc. Can also get it to the ES, HS, and MS PTA to send it out in their PTA announcements since it can start after school started back up again.

\*\*\*\*\*give Siera a write up of SpireBALL; SIERA to ask about permits for VP and ballard

**New Idea/Event for August/September (Monthly Topics: Parents & Prevention / Recovery & Suicide) - Tentative Date: Wed August 27, 2025: Pizza & Prevention in the Park: Real Talk on Teens & Mental Health:**

An informal, community-building evening where parents and caregivers come together at SpireTHERAPY or Town Hall Annex for free pizza (SpireTHERAPY will pay for the therapists time to come and will seek to collab w/Planet Pizza for the food and soft drinks/water)

- Mission: Parents and caregivers come together and have a conversation with therapists from SpireTHERAPY about teen mental health, decision-making, and early signs of risk. It is - prevention-focused, no-pressure event that normalizes talking about mental health and gives parents the tools to see mental health concerns early and feel confident about talking to their kids about mental health.
- \*\*\*\*Pick a date and start advertsing – website/social media/ flyers around town – local businesses. Can also get it to the ES, HS, and MS PTA to send it out in their PTA announcements if its on or after the first week of school.

\*\*\*DENISE reach out to Ppizza – Siera reach out to Town for public park permit

Siera and Denise to collab to create ads for advertisement and around town too

Who can attend? RSVP - Western CT Coalition's Annual Meeting is on Thursday, September 11 from 11:30AM-1:30PM - RSVP in the email sent by Kim C.

**For October -Topic: Opioid/Perscription Drugs** - Movie night: A Beautiful Boy (2018) is raw, gut-wrenching, and essential viewing—especially for a parent-teen audience grappling with issues of addiction, relapse, and the relentless grip of love.

Tentative DATE: October 15, 2025

Collab w/The Playhouse...

\*\*\*Due to the fact that noone came - we need an email vote to manage the event boosting on MetaAds on behalf of RPC w/ a cap of 75\$ per evet boost and via reimbursement.

**Communication-** We would like our board members to please respond to emails. It's hard to know if what we're sending out is being read.

**Meeting Adjourned @ 7:23pm**

Respectfully Submitted by Denise Santangelo