



Ridgefield Prevention Council Meeting

November 17, 2021

Members present: Kim Carone, Tina Malhotra, Karen Facini, Lou Ann Daprato, Sean McEvoy, Carol Ann Sganga, Sarah Lorenzini, Kathy Hanley

1. **Meeting called to order:** 7:05pm
2. **Approval of Minutes for November:**
3. **Treasurer Report:**
4. **Reports/Discussion:**
 - a. **Co-Chair/Brian Nash:** Kim Carone reports that Tina Malhotra is now an official member of the Ridgefield Board of Education (following November elections). Brian Nash will now be stepping in as RPC Co-Chair and will assist Kim with RPC business.
 - b. **November Vaping Month Update:** We have only received one submission for the RPC sponsored Anti-Vaping poster contest. Art teachers, principals and health teachers have been promoting the contest. Kim Carone shared contest information with the Boys & Girls Club to encourage additional submissions. Group decided to extend the contest deadline to December 18th. Possible additional organizations to reach out to include The Guild of Artists, Ridgefield Academy, and school art clubs. Kim Carone will update and print posters with the new deadline.
 - c. **Partner with Ridgefield Youth Commission:** Tina Malhotra (on behalf of RYC) is looking for an organization to partner/donate funds to RYC for their Holiday Party on 12/3/2021 (during the Holiday Stroll). RYC is planning to highlight key youth centered commissions, services, and clubs in town. They will also be holding a scavenger hunt. RPC needs a specific need for donating money/what does RYC need the funds for. Tina will get back to the group with RYC specific needs.
 - d. **RPC Tri-fold:** Sarah Lorenzini is in need of pictures from past RPC events for the tri-fold. Karen Facini and Kim Carone will share any photos they have.

e. December Mental Health/Stress Focus (ideas to promote): Kim Carone reports that RPC does not currently have a partner/program planned for this month. One idea is to design a fact sheet. Kathy Hanley suggests a “How to Have a Stress-free Holiday” fact sheet and ideas could be found on the web. If RPC has a table at the Holiday Stroll, a bag containing the fact sheet and other RPC “swag” could be distributed. Kim will also talk to the Boys & Girls Club to see if bags could be handed out at their Breakfast with Santa event.

5. New Business:

a. WTC Meeting: Kim Carone shared information from the last WTC meeting.

i. Banners: RPC could create banners for each month’s theme to be displayed at Town Hall (or other locations). Kim will investigate one for December and could include a QR code on the banner to share additional information.

ii. Billboards: Kim Carone reports that other town commissions are looking for partners to fund billboards. RPC could discuss ideas at future meetings

iii. Future RPC Goals: Each commission/group should have a marker for success. We need to think about what RPC wants to achieve and how to expand the sector.

b. Dispensaries: Sean McEvoy shared that it was shared at the Ridgefield Tri-Board meeting that discussions will be brought to the various groups in town regarding the possibility of having dispensaries in town.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol Ann D. Sganga