

Ridgefield Prevention Council Meeting

November 16, 2022

Members present: Kim Carone, Karen Facini, Lou Ann Daprato, Siera Fregosi, Sean McEvoy, Carol Ann Sganga, Bhargavi Ramamurthy

1. Meeting called to order: 7:00 pm.
2. Approval of Minutes: Lou Ann Daprato makes a motion to approve the Ridgefield Prevention Council minutes from the June 2022, August 2022, and September 2022 meetings. Siera Fregosi seconds. Motion passes; all in favor.
3. Treasurer Report: Karen Facini reports that current funds total \$18,985.96. Currently working to move all accounts into one main account. Still waiting on the town for \$1500 from 2022.
4. Reports/Discussion:
 - a. Bylaws: Kim Carone reports that revisions were discussed at the October meeting (see October minutes). Additional suggestion made to change member criteria to "live or work in Ridgefield". Kim will add changes to the bylaws and share with the group prior to the next meeting. Kim discussed RPC roles moving forward. Anyone interested in leading the group, please speak to Kim.
 - b. October – Drug Take Back Event: Lou Ann Daprato reports that the event went well and there were more people participating than in previous years. Lou Ann suggested moving the drop off to a more central location (i.e., Bissell Pharmacy) for next year.
 - c. October Trunk or Treat: Bhargavi Ramamurthy reports that the event went well. It was a good event overall for RPC exposure and the trick or treaters had fun. The event wasn't the ideal venue to share details of the RPC mission, but still would recommend participating in the event next year.
 - d. November Vaping
 - i. Banner at Town Hall: Lou Ann Daprato will call and follow up.
 - ii. Middle School Poster Contest: ERMS has 10 submissions so far. RPC will extend the deadline if necessary (like last year).
 - iii. High School Grade Contest: Contest is now live on Instagram. Per RHS request, we added "all RHS rules apply" to contest details. We need RHS students (RPC volunteers) to speak to RHS student government and spread the word about the contest.
 - e. December Holiday Stroll:
 - i. Breathalyzers: Siera Fregosi will contact the vendor to see how many were ordered last year and order more for December.
 - ii. RPC Flyers, other Giveaways: Suggestions from the group included bringing the trifold flyers to distribute.
 - iii. Engagement idea: Due to the nature of the event, having a game, etc. would be difficult. Some other ideas included hanging balloons around the table and bringing RPC branded beach balls as giveaways.
 - f. January Meeting Place/Time: Kim Carone discussed having the January meeting at the Ancient Mariner on January 19, 2023, at 6:30 pm.
 - g. January Planet Pizza Box Stickers: Kim Carone asks the group for any ideas for pizza box stickers. Possible ideas included highlighting Mental Health Awareness and including hotline phone numbers.
 - h. January RHS Basketball Giveaway: RPC is looking to have a giveaway at a February RHS basketball game. Karen Facini will get price quotes for both towels and foam paws (RHS tiger on one side, RPC logo on the other). Need to determine number of items needed (check with Dane Street for capacity).
 - i. Ridgefield PTA Council Drinking and Driving Program: Council is still looking for a program to bring to their membership. Please share any ideas.
 - j. HS Positive Alternatives-Monthly Pizza Update: Kim Carone shared the lists from the last two pizza nights. Discussion included how to reach the students. Possible ideas included texting phone numbers as a reminder and bringing friends. Lou Ann Daprato will use a text app to organize phone numbers received so far.
 - k. Liquor Stickers: There are stickers to be dropped off at local liquor stores. Stickers can also be handed out at the Holiday Stroll.
5. New Business:
 - a. The 40 Developmental Assets: Lou Ann Daprato attended the most recent Western Connecticut Coalition meeting where 40 Developmental Assets was discussed. They offer a 4-hour parent course that can be condensed down to an hour. This could be a great proactive way to reach parents. RPC could look at offering the course on March 23, 2023 and possible partner with The Ridgefield Library. RPC could invite RCASSA to attend and perhaps discussions about the school survey could begin.

- b. Narcan Training: Sean McEvoy suggests holding the training more often and possibly holding sessions when college age students are home.
 - c. December Meeting: There will be no December RPC meeting.
 - d. Book to share: Bhargavi Ramamurthy shared that a friend's son wrote a book, *Daddy's Problem*(available on Amazon). The book focuses on helping children to cope with a parent with addiction type issues. RPC members will take a look at the book to see if this is something that we could share with area doctors/counselors or promote on social media.
6. Meeting adjourned: 8:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Ann D. Sganga