

## Ridgefield Youth Commission Unapproved Meeting Minutes

Ridgefield Youth Commission Special Meeting  
Tuesday, April 5, 2023, at 7:00 pm  
The Barn  
10 Governor Street, Ridgefield, Connecticut

Members Present: Denise Qualey, Mary Doherty, Jim Yavenditti, Mike Lordi, Julia Knispel, and Rian Malhotra

Members Absent: Tina Malhotra, Charolette Bowler, and Skylar Knispel,

Boys and Girls Club: Joe Haskins

### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Ms. Qualey at 7:05 pm.

### 2. Public Comment

No public comments.

### 3. Minutes – review and approval

Motion to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2023, meeting by Mr. Yavenditti, seconded by Mr. Lordi. Motion carries 6 to 0 in favor.

### 4. Town Charter and Youth Commission By-laws Review

The Commission reviewed the Town Charter Section 5-15. Youth Commission. Ms. Knispel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Malhotra, to propose the following recommended changes to the Charter Revision Commission. Motion carries 6 to 0 in favor.

#### Section 5-15. Youth Commission.

The Youth Commission shall consist of ~~16~~twelve members and two alternate serving two-year terms ending July. Six members and one alternate shall be appointed every two years.

~~1. Eight members shall be appointed each year.~~

The Youth Commission shall act as an advocate for the youth of Ridgefield, and ensure participation, planning, and development by the community of youth services, and shall have powers and duties in accordance with the General Statutes.

Minors/youth are permitted to be members of the Youth Commission.

The Commission will review and update its By-laws at a future meeting.

**5. Youth of the Year Event**

Ms. Qualey informed the Commission of the Youth of the Year Event held at the Boys and Girls Club in March.

**6. Activities/Panel ideas for next year**

The Commission had a general discussion on activities for next fall. A Panel discussion topic will be reviewed at the October meeting.

**7. Social Media Review – Website Status**

The Commission's webpage was discussed. Currently, the link is not working. The Members agreed that recruiting a new member or an advisor with technical skills to maintain the website would be beneficial. Mr. Lordi will request that the Town remove the link from the Town page.

**8. Recruitment of New Members**

The Hamlet Hub agreed to post that the Commission is looking for new members. Ms. Doherty with draft language for the post.

**9. Old Business**

No old business

**10. Barn Update**

Mr. Haskins provided an update on the various activities at the Barn.

**11. TeenTalk and School Update**

An update will be provided at the next meeting.

**12. Ridgefield Prevention Council Update**

An update will be provided at the next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10