



Ridgefield Prevention Council Meeting

December 15, 2021

Members present via Zoom: Kim Carone, Kathy Hanley, Sarah Lorenzini, Lou Ann Daprato, Bhargavi Ramamurthy, Brian Nash

1. **Meeting called to order:** 7:05pm
2. **Approval of Minutes for November:** 1st motion by Sara Lorenzini, 2nd Kim Carone, all Approved.
3. **Treasurer Report:** NA
4. **Reports/Discussion:**
 - Holiday Stroll Recap: Swag was missing for the stroll (still trying to find out where it all went), but we had the breathalyzers & they were all gone in 1 hour (200). The adults love it. Maybe we should do a pilot program to put some in the bars in town. Kim will reach out to the police department for stats on drinking & driving. Bars in town- will focus on Ancient Mariner & The Hideaway. Definitely should do the stroll again next year- but should set up earlier than 5pm next year. Should consider “what’s in a standard drink” flyer for next year. Let’s Mention Prevention has some free stuff on that.
 - Narcan update (RPS Schools & Police): Kathy sent us an email that there was some available due to the fentanyl issue in Norwalk with vaping. Sarah received some for RPS schools. The Ridgefield Police Department has 50 expiring at the end of the month and they were looking to get some to hold them over. They should be able to get their own Narcan but Kathy will talk to Alison to see what we can get them.
 - Town Grant Request: Time for us to ask for the town to help us out. Kim submitted it this month and we will be asking for the same amount as last year.
 - SAMHSA Grant?: Are we interested or did we want to hold off? Maybe something to look into for next year, but not this year. Kathy suggested applying for the mini grant if we wanted to do something with overdose prevention.
 - Billboards: At our last meeting we spoke about partnering with Danbury for the billboard on 84. It’s pricey (a few thousand \$). The billboards have been useful in the recovery community. They were positively received, pricy but worth it depending on what the message will be. We’d like our goal to be

something serious- maybe something positive (like the taco's billboard). If you go down Rt 6 the NY prevention council has a billboard there, and we could reach out to them to do the same thing. That's a cheaper billboard to try and partner with them. Agreement to do a billboard with Danbury & then reach out to the Rt. 6 one. If we decide to apply for the state opioid response mini grant it's 5,000, we could use artwork already out there.

- January 27th- virtual Hidden in Plain Sight with RHS PTSA: They will be partnering with us. It will be virtual. We're paying for it but they will be promoting the event for us. The only requirement is that it's not open to students (adults only). We'll know how we let in, and people can pre-register so we know who they are.
- February- Host community coffee/dinner- Tina: New covid numbers aren't good. We will push this to the end of May and will do something outside. We could have this fill in for the treasure hunt event. Do we want to fill in February with something else? Maybe try and invite other sectors to the meeting in February. Lets see who else we can get in. Put ads in the paper and saw what we're looking for. Could do an email campaign to specific sectors (scouts, sports, music programs), to join to share a recruitment flyer.
- March- Gambeling (anyone looking to take the lead): A banner in front of town hall would be great. LouAnn will go back to the company we used for vaping to do a banner for Gambeling. PSA's and risks to put on social media pages. Kathy has data on youth gambeling on their website.

5. New Business:

- Town Events for 2022-23: It would be helpful if we could find out who/what events are planned & then schedule for us to be there. The more were at events the more people will understand what we do. Louanne to ask Amy and the chamber. Tina will get info if needed.
- Dinner on 1/11: Can everyone make sure they can attend January's meeting out on 1/11 @ 6:30pm Ancient Mariner for a thank you 2021 meeting/dinner.
- Bhargavi Ramamurthy to reach out to Rudy to become an official member of RPC. Tina to email Rudy to help. Louann has nominated Bhargavi to be our secretary for 2022.

6 Adjourned: 7:53pm

Respectfully submitted,

Kim Carone