

Ridgefield Prevention Council Meeting
June 15, 2022 at 7:00 pm via Zoom

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Wendy Munoz-Loretto
CLERK'S OFFICE
RIDGEFIELD, CT

Members present: Kim Carone, Karen Facini, Sarah Lorenzini, Tina Malhotra, Rian Malhotra, Barb Jennings

Meeting called to order: 7:16pm

2. **Approval of Minutes for April:** April & May Approved

3. **Treasurer Report:** currently have 24,729.29 in operating & 178.08 in other account

4. **Reports/Discussion:**

- We invited 4 RHS students to join our meeting to see if they were interested. Rian Malhotra came and we spoke about the idea of starting a club & the high school and what would be needed. We asked Rian to bring a friend to the next meeting that would be interested in pursuing our mission. Will ask RHS PTA to blast out that we're looking for student representatives and see if we receive additional students who are interested.
- Welcome Barb Jennes spoke about Overdose Awareness Day that she is currently working on @ the Ridgefield Library for 8/31. We discussed the possibility of her moving that to 9/7 to combine with Brian's vidial. The event will have poets, music, speakers, and then we can go outside at the end and have a candle lighting. The Library is a current sponsor and Barb would like RPS to be another sponsor (we can promote on social media for her). We all voted yes, that we would love to partner with her on this event. Barb is thinking of holding the event via FB Live as well. Kim to ask NCL to make cookie donations for the event. Will need to have coffee as well.
- We've been approved to receive \$1500 for the town.
- June- graduation postcard was sent out with the help of The Graduation Party event (we printed the post cards and obtained stamps, and the parents of all the students who registered for the party were mailed one). Would recommend doing this again next year.
- Project Graduation- We need people to help hand out the drink covers. If you're available @ 3am please come to the Rec Center (Kim will be the only person there).
- WCT Report- Kim will be sending this out to the group before the August Meeting.
- Social Media for next year- We discussed if we've seen an increase in followers, and we don't seem to be gaining any ground. We've voted to hold off on Aspire after their July push to see if we can find someone in the group willing to post for us. The \$1200 for 3-month price tag is just too much without seeing any returns (we haven't received any donations from the social media push).
- Survey Recap- We went over the numbers and believe we need to work on depression and anxiety for next year, as well as alcohol use. Our vaping use seems to be on the low size based on our survey. Next year our survey should include the age range based on each question if possible. The winner of the \$100 gift card will be the 9's person to provide their email address in the Survey (Mathews_kelly@hotmail.com)
- Finalize Goals/events for 2022-2023- Kim to send out the new list before the August Meeting

New Business:

- We would like to look into sponsoring a sign on the RHS football field for the 2022-23 season.
- Car Crash Update (during prom/graduation)- RHS is not interested as they feel it would be too traumatic for the students to see a reenactment with their friends involved. The only other option would be to find another location for this type of event, and hold it in town. Not sure if it's something to pursue, but we can reach out to the police chief to get his take.
- Drinking/Drug Free Events for Teens- We would like to find something for students to do on Friday nights to keep them from taking part in risky behavior. We would like to try and put together an RPC Teen Free Friday Night. The proposal would be: Starting in September, the 1st Friday of the month, RPC would offer RHS students the ability to go to Planet Pizza during the hours of 7:30pm & 9:00pm and "purchase a slice

of pizza and a drink" for free. In order to receive this, they would have to provide planet pizza with a student ID & sign their name and email address on a sign-up sheet. In addition, they would also receive a certificate for 1 free ice cream cone at Deborah Ann's (also paid for by RPC). The idea is to spread our name around, find alternatives for students on Friday nights, and obtain student names & email addresses to invite to future RPC events (geared towards students). Kim to follow up with Planet and Deborah Ann's to see if we can work out the details. If it's successful, we could a) keep things with Planet, or change to a different venue for January thru March.

New Business:

6 Adjourned: 8:30 pm

**Respectfully submitted,
Kim Carone**