

Ridgefield Youth Commission Meeting Minutes

November 2, 2022, 7:00-8:00 pm

Location: The Barn Teen Center

Attendees Members:

Denise Dammer-Qualey Chairperson

Mary Doherty

James Yavenditti

Michael Lordi

Tina Malhotra

Rian Malhotra

Alexandra Avila

Julia Knispel

- No public comments were made
- The members had no comments on the September 14, 2022, meeting minutes.
- The Commission's webpage was discussed. Rian updated the membership section and requested that members forward any additional updates to the biographies section on the site. The Barn hours listed on the webpage will be reviewed with the Boys and Girls Club. Mike will forward the list of Committee members to the town and request that the town's website is updated. Julia will work with Mary and Denise to reset the Commission Instagram account's password.
- The members discussed strategies to recruit new members. The town published the list of vacancies.
- The Commission will hold another fundraiser during the holiday stroll. Tina will coordinate entertainment, Julia will work on donations for the raffle, Skyler is preparing the flyer, and Denise, Mary, and Mike will take care of decorations. All members will bring a food item to the event. The Commission will hold a Special Meeting on November 30, 2022, to discuss final preparations for the event. Mike will notify the town and see if the meeting can be held using the town's Zoom account.
- "Civil discourse in a polarized society – learning from people you disagree with" will be the panel discussion hosted by the Commission. The panel will be held via Zoom on February 2, 2023. The panel composition was discussed. The members felt that having two former politicians (one from each party), a former high school student, a high school teacher, and a college advisor would work well. Youth members of the Commission will moderate the panel.
- Alexandra gave an update on TeanTalk
- Tina gave an update on Ridgefield Prevention Council.
- No official votes were taken during this meeting.