

Town of Ridgefield

Meeting of the Board of Compassionate Ridgefield

June 2, 2026, 5:00- 6:30PM

Town Hall Large Conference Room

400 Main Street, Ridgefield, Ct

**Attendance:** Bob Cascella, Martha Morris, Shelly Fisher, Jennifer Tejada, and Rudy Marconi

**Absent:** Margee Rodgers, and Carol Mahlstedt

Martha Morris called the meeting to order at 5:10 p.m.

**1. Secretary's Report**

The May minutes were not approved due to lack of a quorum from May's meeting.

**2. Treasurer's Report**

a. Bob Cascella reported a June balance of \$ 3,196.06. He reported coins and t-shirts sold at the Town Party amounted to \$184.00 in additional income.

**3. Open Board Position**

- a. Martha Morris opened discussion about filling the open board position.
- b. Rudy reviewed the town procedure selecting a new board member at the meeting.
- c. Martha will create an email for public notice and send to Gillian to add to the weekly Town Newsletter.
- d. All board members are asked to explore possible candidates and will discuss at next month's board meeting.

**4. Debrief Memorial Day Parade and Ridgefield Playhouse Town Party.**

- a. Jennifer Tejada and Martha Morris reported the Town Party was a huge success and was an example of breeding compassion in our town.
- b. The youth ambassadors marched in the Memorial Day Parade.

**5. Youth Ambassador Program**

- a. It was suggested that a press release be created and published on the Town Newsletter announcing the newly appointed Youth Ambassadors.
- b. It should be noted in these minutes that Rudy Weiner was the third appointed Youth Ambassador.
- c. Carol Mahlstedt posted on Instagram photos of the ambassadors marching in the Memorial Day Parade. A separate post announced the three newly appointed youth ambassadors.

d. The next event for the Youth Ambassadors will be at the 9/11 Memorial.

**6. Ridgefield Coalition for Compassion Event**

- a. Martha Morris reported the new date is 10/2/26. She talked about ways to invite folks to the event. There is a community ambassadors list on the web site
- b. It was further suggested that the committee meet to cross reference the list and strategize on how to expand it. The members will divide the list among themselves and then send email invitations. The committee will decide on a meeting date.

**7. Upcoming Events**

- a. Jennifer Tejada and Shelly Fisher will work at the Pride Event in Ballard Park on June 6 from 12-3.
- b. Martha Morris will host a talk back on 6/17 after the *Dear Evan Hansen* performance at the A.C.T. Theatre.

**8. Other New Business**

- a. Ridgefield Summer Fest is July 25<sup>th</sup>
- b. Rudy emailed Annie Fandl of the Chamber to arrange for a table at the event.
- c. It was suggested to ask the Youth Ambassadors to participate in the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10

Next month's meeting will be on Tuesday July 7<sup>th</sup> from 5-6:30 P.M. in Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelly Fisher