



Ridgefield Prevention Council

MINUTES

Date

October 29, 2025 6:00pm

Location

ZOOM

RPC Mission Statement

The Ridgefield Prevention Council supports a safe and healthy environment for all Ridgefield families through awareness, education and positive alternatives to alcohol and other substance use and to reduce high-risk youth behaviors

"Ridgefield Prevention Council meetings will be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order and all participants are expected to conduct themselves with dignity and treat all those present with respect, empathy and civility."

Action Items

- Denise Santangelo -

- Coordinate coverage for November 18 Region 5 meeting
- Email Connor to confirm which meetings are on Zoom or in-person and arrange for coverage due to surgery.
- Order event giveaways (bracelets, cards)
- Research and purchase bracelets and cards for holiday event, ensuring cost is within the approved \$500 budget.
- Check pricing for bracelets and other giveaway items at Four Imprints and compare with Amazon.

- Reach out to Redding LPC and Playhouse for January event - Sarah to help with.

- Email Reading LPC and Playhouse to coordinate dates and collaboration for the January movie night. Sarah will help facilitate.

- Send receipts to Treasurer (Send receipts for event-related purchases to Karen for reimbursement)

- Connect with PTA liaison (Mike) - Email Mike to discuss potential collaboration and communication between the council and PTA for school initiatives.

- Sierra Fasini -

- Create QR codes and signage for events

- Design and produce QR codes linking to Instagram and website for use at upcoming events, including the Holiday Stroll.

- Karen Fasini -

- Research alternative vendors for giveaways

Overview of Events from the Meeting

- Approved September meeting minutes and agenda.

- Treasurer's report: \$23,415.21 balance.

- Local Prevention Council contract for \$5,342 approved.

- Upcoming leadership meetings require two representatives; coverage needed for November 18 due to surgery.

- Spireball and holiday event planning, including QR code and giveaways.

- Motion passed for \$500 budget for holiday event giveaways.

- Motion passed for \$200 budget for zoom purchase for meetings going forward.

- Discussion on social media strategy and community engagement.

- Collaboration with Reading LPC and PTA liaison established.

Meeting Called to Order, Attendance, and Approvals

- Meeting called to order at 6:10.

- Attendees: Denise Santangelo, Karen Fasini, Sierra Fasini, Mike Bonheim, Sarah Lorenzini.

- September meeting minutes approved (motion by Karen, seconded by Sierra).

- Current agenda approved (motion by Karen, seconded by Sierra).

Treasurer's Report and Contract Updates

- Local Prevention Council Program contract application submitted and approved.
- Contract amount: \$5,342 for July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026.
- Current balance: \$23,415.21.

LPC Contract Requirements and Leadership Meeting Planning

- Application mirrored previous years; expanded existing programs.
- Maintained focus on vaping prevention.
- Council must reflect community, include minimum 12 sectors (e.g., youth, schools, organizations).
- Strategic prevention framework required.
- Send 2 members to Region 5 LPC leadership meetings (September, November, January, March; May optional).

Event Planning: Coverage, Transitions, and Upcoming Meetings

- Sarah leaves for D.C. to work with the Secretary of the Air Force for 11 months.
- LPC meetings scheduled every two months on the third Tuesday, 5–7 PM.
- Next meeting: November 18th; attendance needed due to Sarah's absence (surgery).
- LPC must hold at least 4 meetings/year, implement 2+ prevention strategies, and join regional planning.
- Meeting format (in-person/Zoom) and locations vary; coordination ongoing for coverage.

Community Events, Social Media, and Outreach Initiatives

- Spireball signups are live; high turnout at Halloween walk with over 1,800 lollipops distributed.
- Emphasis on increasing RPC name recognition via event signage, QR codes linking to Instagram/website, and branded giveaways.
- Upcoming events: Holiday stroll/table presence on December 6th-7th, potential January movie night collaboration with Redding LPC.

- Budget approved: \$500 for holiday event giveaways (bracelets, cards with QR codes, holiday-themed items).
- Plans to use QR codes, low-cost printouts, and small branded items to facilitate engagement and awareness at events.

Collaboration, School Partnerships, and Community Concerns

- Plan to purchase a Zoom upgrade for longer meetings.
- Website to feature upcoming events: holiday walk, movie night, Battle of the Bands, Spireball, April event.
- Emphasis on promoting positive, family-friendly activities as prevention, not just anti-drug messaging.
- Spireball (wiffle ball league) to target grades 3RD–10TH grade, with indoor/outdoor play and school club involvement.
- Incident reported: Village Smoke Shop arrest related to nitrous oxide abuse; concern over large containers used.