



Ridgefield Prevention Council

Date

Jan 29, 2026 06:00 PM Eastern Time

Location

Topic: RPC MONTHLY MEETING

Time: Jan 29, 2026 06:00 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us05web.zoom.us/j/81408920627?pwd=LTbLF0NHK3vweOrgKIYXvlqHnn6vei.1>

Meeting ID: 814 0892 0627

Passcode: bZ0wn6

MINUTES

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."

1. Call to Order @ 6:03pm

2. Attendees:

- **Name: DENISE SANTANGELO**
- **Name: KAREN FACINI**
- **Name: SIERA FACINI**
- **Name:**
- **Name:**
- **Name:**

3. Approval of Agenda

- Motion to Approve or Amend the Agenda
- APPROVED BY KF AND SECONDED BY SF

4. Approval of Minutes:

- Motion to Approve or Amend the October 2025 Meeting - Approved by KF, seconded by SF
- Minutes.

5. Treasurer's Report:

• currently have 22,618.85

6. Reports/Discussion:

• Chairperson's Report by Denise Santangelo

- Pizza & Prevention Sept -ongoing event?
- SpireBALL SignUps Live - RPC sponsorship-
- Local Prevention Council Grant Final Report - submitted by Denise Santangelo to Conor Burke @ cburke@wctcoalition.org

- Quarterly Report will be sent to Conor Burk - 1/31/26.
- Grant for Vaping/Smoking Awareness
- Survey Sent out to Town - Denise created a new survey, approved by Karen F. and Kim C. and sent to Town - Gillian for dissemination.
- Review Event Dates/Calendar Plan & Budget info for 26-27 - continue to review, assign volunteers, and budget;
- Hired Siera to do website and Social Media presence.
 - Website looks great - changing colors and new logo ...siera to do options for us
 - Rant for Vaping - All agreed we will pass on this, very involved and time better spent planning events with the funds we have.

· Events upcoming - reports & budget by each of the coordinators per their events:

- Denise Santangelo -chair
 - Ongoing SpireBALL - wiffle ball league
 - september 4, 2025: pizza & prevention in the park: real talk on teens & mental health
 - February/march movie night - collab w/playhouse?: a beautiful boy (2018) or perks of being a wallflower - w/panel of therapists - spiretherapy sponsor
 - **May - success isn't linear** - by siera facini, denise to also speak about mh side, siera to lead her speech - targeted to seniors how she navigated college and getting her first job. (ds and sf to meet to collab) - at the library and planet sponsor. denise to add to slides - mh perspective with concrete skills and tools.
- Sarah lorenzini -
- Karen facini -
- Kim carone -
- Siera facini -
- Tina malhotra -
- Bhargavi ramamurthy - help liaison to safe rides?
- Will knispel (student liaison) -

Alisa t - chair of pride - sponsor suicide prevention week - presentation
by alisa t.

- . Partnership with ridgefield pride - effort to hang “celebrate pride” signs for suicide prevention week - visibility saves lives - data shows. She drafted a press release that shows a graphic for this purpose - wants the endorsement of the prevention council. Banner at the town hall - the patch will do a feature article.
- . Vote on allowing - logo and resource on the press release - post on our social media the prevention week awareness - she’ll send media to us for this. We will hand out flyers at the pizza and prevention:
- . - motion to approve the partnership of ridgefield - second - passes.

7. Siera seat opening since she moved out of town, she is now a helper and still wants to still help.
8. Need to get new members, ask mike b.
 - a. Karen to email rudy and cc denise re: open seats.
9. Safe rides charter - someone needs to be willing to partner it - we can provide funding but can’t run it on our own. Ask mike b how to navigate this and have someone join our next meeting.
10. New logo - siera to draft up.
11. Reposting what would be good/relevant to repost on rpc, and events to be reposted....@ridgefieldpreventioncouncil.
12. New business:
13. February - romantic relationships and scamming/fraud in this. Feb posts - siera to do.

- **New calendar for 2026 meetings** - Monday night - virtual for new meeting - to check with Kim too, KF and SF agreed Mondays are good for them.
- **Spireball:** location - permanent location established for spring and summer and pop up locations tbd for special events; league sign ups and team creation and uniforms. Summer/fall location - plan to start in april outdoors

for a big spring launch game.; winter location..will reach out to options for jab-march season for indoor play.

- Superintendent and pta liaison - mike b.
- **New idea/event** for august/september annual event (monthly topics: parents & prevention / recovery & suicide) - september 2025: **pizza & prevention in the park: real talk on teens & mental health:**

an informal, community-building evening where parents and caregivers come together at spiretherapy or town hall annex for free pizza (spiretherapy will pay for the therapists time to come and will seek to collab w/planet pizza for the food and soft drinks/water) mission: parents and caregivers come together and have a conversation with therapists from spiretherapy about teen mental health, decision-making, and early signs of risk. It is - prevention-focused, no-pressure event that normalizes talking about mental health and gives parents the tools to see mental health concerns early and feel confident about talking to their kids about mental health.

- **Who can attend? Rsvp - western ct coalition's annual meeting** is next meeting in person in March? Maybe karen but will ask to also stream it?
- *For february/march: opioid/perscription drugs - **movie night: a beautiful boy (2018)** is raw, gut-wrenching, and essential viewing—especially for a parent-teen audience grappling with issues of addiction, relapse, and the relentless grip of love.*
- *Option 2: the perks of being a wallflower - about coming of age, sexuality, bullying, peer pressure, drugs.*
- *Tentative date:*
- *Collab w/the playhouse...*
- **April – SpireBALL kickoff**
- **July - pizza & prevention in the park: real talk on teens & mental health:**
- **September:** battle of the bands - collab with chirp? End of summer event

- **October event** - Denise speaking about breast cancer journey and how it affects family life - prevention awareness.
- **Current - safe rides** - bringing this back under RPC purview! Collab with PTA - Bhargavi to lead?

*****SCHEDULE** FOR 2026: Monday night - virtual for new meeting - to check with Kim too.

14. Adjournment

- - motion to adjourn - KF and SF approved and seconded
- officially adjourned @ 7:34

Meeting adjourned