



Ridgefield Prevention Council

MINUTES

Date

March 30 2026 05:00 PM Eastern Time

Location

Ridgefield Playhouse - prior to Movie Night Event starting at 5:45pm at the Playhouse.

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 @ 5:00PM**

2. **Attendees:**

- **Name: Kim Carone**
- **Name: Karen Facini**
- **Name: Denise Santangelo**

- **Name:**
- **Name:**
- **Name:**

3. **Approval of Agenda**

- Motion to Approve or Amend the Agenda - PASSED KC and KF

4. **Approval of Minutes:**

- Motion to Approve or Amend the January 2026 Meeting Minutes - PASSED KC and KF

5. **Treasurer's Report:**

6. **Reports/Discussion:**

- Chairperson's Report by Denise Santangelo
 - Pizza & Prevention Sept -ongoing event - YES
 - SpireBALL SignUps Live - RPC sponsorship 2026 season. Insurance from town- waiting on Town response on status of the Ins. b/c private house for location.- PTA involvement w/Mike B and HS signups through student run (teacher led) club.
 - Local Prevention Council Funds received? Check sent to Town.
 - Quarterly Report sent to Conor Burk - 1/27/26.
 - Vaping/Smoking Awareness - September?
 - Survey Sent out to Town last summer - annually? (2025 Denise created new survey, approved by Karen F. and Kim C. and sent to Town - Gillian for dissemination)
 - Review Event Dates/Calendar Plan & Budget info for 25-26 - continue to review, assign volunteers, and budget;
 - Hired Siera to do website and Social Media presence. Still happening although she moved and is no longer part of the Board
 - Sent emails to board members no longer active. New spots open.
- Events Upcoming - Reports & Budget by Each of the Coordinator's per their events:
 - Denise Santangelo -Chair
 - Ongoing SpireBALL - Wiffle Ball League
 - Move Night - March 30, 2025 - Ridgefield Playhouse host, SpireTHERAPY - therapists for panel donated and Planet Pizza donated food.

- Box-Top for Pizza re 988 suicide prevention - Lounsbury House collaboration - Kim C. Leading. Making sticker. Denise received okay from Planet Pizza to add to the pizza boxes.

- SEPTEMBER 2026: Pizza & Prevention in the Park: Real Talk on Teens & Mental Health

- Sponsor suicide prevention week 9/6-9/12/26)- partner with PRIDE again and what other suggestions?

(last year we partnered with PRIDE: re: 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.)

7. **New Business:**

SUMMERFEST - Kim C to collab w/Deborah Ann’s - cup idea with our logo

Pride in the Park - Denise to do - Logo sponsorship

SPORTS Sponsorship - Denise to do - Logo sponsorship - soccer, baseball jesen field,

VP Sponsorship - \$1,00

Kids in Crisis - Basket of goodies w/write up of who we are \$300 budget (bracelets and basket) KF and KC approved

Approval of RHS gard party - \$DJ (\$1850) approved by KC and KF and DS

New Hire to help collab the local councils with the same goal.

- SpireBALL: Location - permanent location and pop up location; league sign ups and team creation and uniforms. Summer/Fall location - plan to start in September when all kids are home and play until mid-October-Nov (weather); Winter location..will reach out to options for November on for indoor play.

- **New Idea/Event** for August/ RECURRING-yes (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.

- **2026 events (up to June 2026)**

Pizza and prevention in the park w/therapists

Holiday stroll - table

HALLOWEEN STROLL -

Movie night - playhouse w/therapists from SpireTHERAPY

Lock boxes

Box tops - 988

Monthly meetings

RHS Grad Party -

Ann's place fundraiser - speaker

Kids in crisis basket for HS

To do:

BRANDING:

Pride in the Park - Logo sponsorship

Summer Fest - Logo sponsorship

Baseball Banner - jensen Field

Soccer - \$1,000

Vp sponsorship - \$1,000

FUTURE BRANDING OPPS: FALL SPORTS - FIELD HOCKEY, SOCCER
BASKETBALL

- *****

- **Western CT Coalition's Annual Meeting** is Next Meeting in person in
April/May?CHALLENGE TO ATTEND BC OF LOCATION AND TIME.

- **BATTLE OF THE BANDS** - *Opioid prevention and family cohesion awareness*
- *suicide prevention - collab with CHIRP? Or playhouse - End of Summer Event-collab*
w/town for

- **Safe Rides** - Collab with PTA - Rotary Club? We can sponsor

8. **Adjournment**

- Motion to adjourn

- Officially adjourned @ 6pm - started event

Meeting ADJOURNED

