



2019 Municipal Candidate Statements for candidates running for contested seats on November 5

Dear Redding Residents,

The Redding League of Women Voters asked all candidates for contested seats in the November 5th Municipal Election to submit a statement. The following request was sent to these candidates:

“The Redding League of Women Voters would like to offer information to our Redding Community on all candidates running for contested seats this November. As such, we would like to **invite you submit a brief Candidate Statement** for distribution at the **Redding League of Women Voters Municipal Candidates Debate on Wednesday October 23**. We will also share this information via our communications channels following the debates.”

The statements received are set forth herein. A sample ballot is also included.

For more information about the candidates running for the Redding Board of Education and the Region 9 Board of Education, [view the video of the October 23 debates](http://redding79.org) on redding79.org

We hope you find this information useful.

Sincerely,

The Redding League of Women Voters



2019 Municipal Candidate Statements

for candidates running for contested seats on November 5

Redding Board of Education:		<i>3 to be elected</i>
Christopher Parkin	Democratic Party	
Stephanie Oulton	Democratic Party	
Michael Hoffman	Republican Party	
William J. Miller	Republican Party	
Easton-Redding Region 9 Board of Education:		<i>2 to be elected</i>
Mike D’Agostino	Democratic Party	
Mary Lee Pampel	Democratic Party	
Chris Hocker	Republican Party	
Board of Assessment Appeals:		<i>1 to be elected</i>
Karen Gifford	Democratic Party	
Frederick V. Miller Jr.	Republican Party	
Planning Commission:		<i>2 to be elected</i>
Daniel Barrett	Democratic Party	
Regina O’Brien	Democratic Party	
Chuck Cilo	Republican Party	
Zoning Commission:		<i>3 to be elected</i>
Paul R. Scholl	Democratic Party	
William H. Whitehead, Jr.	Democratic Party	
Gerald L. Casiello	Republican Party	
Matthew Lecher	Republican Party	

SAMPLE BALLOT

REDDING CT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS 2019

State of Connecticut
Official Ballot

Redding, Connecticut

Municipal Election

November 5, 2019

Sheet 1 of 1

SAMPLE

OFFICE PARTY	1 FIRST SELECTMAN Vote for One	2 SELECTMAN Vote for One	3 TOWN CLERK Vote for One	4 TOWN TREASURER Vote for One	5 TAX COLLECTOR Vote for One	6 BOARD OF FINANCE Vote for Any Two	7	8 BOARD OF EDUCATION Vote for Any Two	9	10 BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS Vote for One	11 PLANNING COMMISSION Vote for Any Two	12	13 ZONING COMMISSION Vote for Any Three	14	15
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	<input type="radio"/> 1A JULIA PEMBERTON	<input type="radio"/> 2A MARGARET (PEG) O'DONNELL	<input type="radio"/> 3A MICHELE R. GRANDE	<input type="radio"/> 4A W. WESLEY HIGGINS	<input type="radio"/> 5A PATRICIA J. MOISID	<input type="radio"/> 6A KIMBERLY A. YONKERS	7A	<input type="radio"/> 8A CHRISTOPHER PARKIN	<input type="radio"/> 9A STEPHANIE A. DULTON	<input type="radio"/> 10A KAREN GIFFORD	<input type="radio"/> 11A DANIEL BARRETT	<input type="radio"/> 12A REGINA O'BRIEN	<input type="radio"/> 13A PAUL R. SCHOLL	<input type="radio"/> 14A WILLIAM H. WHITEHEAD, JR.	15A
REPUBLICAN PARTY	<input type="radio"/> 1B JULIA PEMBERTON	<input type="radio"/> 2B MICHAEL P. THOMPSON	<input type="radio"/> 3B MICHELE R. GRANDE	<input type="radio"/> 4B W. WESLEY HIGGINS	<input type="radio"/> 5B PATRICIA J. MOISID	<input type="radio"/> 6B JENIFER WYSS	7B	<input type="radio"/> 8B WILLIAM J. MILLER	<input type="radio"/> 9B MICHAEL HOFFMAN	<input type="radio"/> 10B FREDERICK V. MILLER, JR.	<input type="radio"/> 11B CHUCK COLO	12B	<input type="radio"/> 13B GERALD L. CASTELLO	<input type="radio"/> 14B MATTHEW LECHER	15B
GREEN PARTY	1C	2C	3C	4C	5C	6C	7C	8C	9C	10C	11C	12C	13C	14C	15C
WRITE-IN VOTES	<input type="radio"/> 1D	<input type="radio"/> 2D	<input type="radio"/> 3D	<input type="radio"/> 4D	<input type="radio"/> 5D	<input type="radio"/> 6D	<input type="radio"/> 7D	<input type="radio"/> 8D	<input type="radio"/> 9D	<input type="radio"/> 10D	<input type="radio"/> 11D	<input type="radio"/> 12D	<input type="radio"/> 13D	<input type="radio"/> 14D	<input type="radio"/> 15D

Be sure to complete your vote on the reverse side of this ballot.

State of Connecticut
Official Ballot

Redding, Connecticut

Municipal Election

November 5, 2019

Sheet 1 of 1

SAMPLE

OFFICE PARTY	16 ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS Vote for Any Three	17	18	19 CONSTABLES Vote for Any Four	20	21	22	23 REGIONAL BOARD OF EDUCATION Vote for Any Two	24
DEMOCRATIC PARTY	<input type="radio"/> 16A ELIZABETH F. WILLIAMS	<input type="radio"/> 17A	<input type="radio"/> 18A	<input type="radio"/> 19A CHARLES P. MULLANEY	<input type="radio"/> 20A MARY ANN CARMAN	<input type="radio"/> 21A ANNET BONFANTI	<input type="radio"/> 22A LORCAN O'CONNOR	<input type="radio"/> 23A MIKE D'AGOSTINO	<input type="radio"/> 24A MARY LEE PAMPEL
REPUBLICAN PARTY	<input type="radio"/> 16B NOEL COOKE	<input type="radio"/> 17B BRIAN MATZKE	<input type="radio"/> 18B	<input type="radio"/> 19B WILLIAM R. COOK	<input type="radio"/> 20B URS BRODERICK FURBER	<input type="radio"/> 21B	<input type="radio"/> 22B	<input type="radio"/> 23B CHRIS HOCKER	<input type="radio"/> 24B
GREEN PARTY	16C	17C	18C	<input type="radio"/> 19C LEIF R. SMITH	20C	21C	22C	23C	24C
WRITE-IN VOTES	<input type="radio"/> 16D	<input type="radio"/> 17D	<input type="radio"/> 18D	<input type="radio"/> 19D	<input type="radio"/> 20D	<input type="radio"/> 21D	<input type="radio"/> 22D	<input type="radio"/> 23D	<input type="radio"/> 24D



CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

REDDING BOARD OF EDUCATION

Democratic Candidates

Chris Parkin



Chris has lived in Redding since 2009 with his wife Becky and three children (currently in grades 2, 5, and 8). He has served on the Redding Board of Education since 2017, is the Board Secretary, the Board's lead negotiator with the district's four unions, and sits on the transportation, long range planning, structure and ways of working, policy, and central office committees. Chris believes strongly in the value of public education and looks forward to continuing the Board's work to improve communication and proactively plan for the future of education. Professionally, he is the VP of Litigation for The Chefs' Warehouse.

Stephanie Oulton



Stephanie was born in Redding and raised in Georgetown. After earning a BA in Business Management, she chose to move back to Redding to raise her children. She has volunteered at the Mark Twain Library, the Boys and Girls Club, the Redding Historical Society, and the board of County Assemblies, which supports Juniors and Seniors at Joel Barlow High School. Her reasons for wanting to serve on the board of education are straightforward. Stephanie is passionate about the future of educational excellence here in Redding, and wants to give back to the community that has served her family so well.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

REDDING BOARD OF EDUCATION

Republican Candidates

Michael Hoffman – Board of Education



Currently serving as Vice Chair of the Redding Board of Education, Mike is seeking a second term. Over the past four years, he has distinguished himself as a key player in the BoE's budgeting and contract negotiations as well as being an ardent proponent of maintaining our schools' level of educational excellence. As the lead BoE representative during the recent negotiation with the Teacher's Union, Mike was able to secure major cost-saving changes in pay scale steps as well as healthcare. These contract changes were recognized by a fellow BoE member as the most significant accomplishments

achieved by the Board in over a decade. Professionally, Mike is President of Hoffman Landscapes in Wilton. He is married with three children who have all attended Redding schools.

William J. Miller – Board of Education



Bill seeks election to the Board of Education to work hand-in-hand with Mike Hoffman and other Board members for the purpose of ensuring quality education for our children and fiscal responsibility to our taxpayers. He moved to Redding after a long, successful career in private banking with J.P. Morgan Chase, Brown Brothers Harriman and Deutschland Bank Trust. A graduate of Wake Forest University, he is an acknowledged consensus builder. Bill and his spouse Paul have spent the last year restoring one of Redding's historic homes – the Simon Couch House on Old Redding Road.

He has served as a youth counselor and finance committee member for his church and was instrumental in the conflict resolution initiatives of the Baltimore Elementary School System.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

EASTON-REDDING REGION 9 BOARD OF EDUCATION

Democratic Candidates

Mike D'Agostino



Mike is the current Chair of the Region 9 Board of Education where he has successfully increased educational opportunities for students while finding efficiencies to reduce costs as the student population declines. Mike has worked to promote greater communication within the school and parent communities. He explored optional funding opportunities, and worked to obtain grants to install HD transmission equipment to broadcast and livestream board meetings and events. Mike has lived in Redding for 30 years, serving the public school community as a volunteer since 2006, and as an elected member of both the Redding and the Region 9 Boards of Education.

Mary Lee Pampel



Mary Lee would like to serve on the Region 9 school board to support continued excellent educational practices. She is currently an outdoor educator and membership coordinator at New Pond Farm. Previously, she taught middle school social studies, having earned a BA in Russian Studies from the University of Virginia and an MA from Columbia University's Teachers College. A former PTA co-president and Board of Education liaison at Redding Elementary School, Mary Lee appreciates that all residents have a vested interest in an educational system that prepares Redding's children to be productive citizens, while remaining affordable for residents into their retirement.

Republican Candidate

Chris Hocker – Region 9 (Joel Barlow) Board of Education



Chris has served on the Region 9 Board of Education since 2007 and wants to continue to focus his experience and common-sense approach to maintaining Barlow's record as one of Connecticut's top-rated public high schools through reasonable and acceptable costs to the taxpayers. Chris has previously served as Board Chair, as well as Chair of the Board's Facilities and Fields Committee, where he was instrumental in the successful planning and execution of the \$2.8 million stadium renovation project at Barlow. As a long-serving member of the Negotiations Committee, Chris has helped bring

about employee pension and benefit reforms resulting in hundreds of thousands of dollars in future cost savings. A graduate of Stanford University, Chris is a 26-year Redding resident with two grown children, a past President and Board Member of Boys & Girls Club of Redding-Easton and an executive with PowerBridge, LLC, a developer and owner of electric transmission facilities.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

BOARD OF ASSESSMENT APPEALS

Democratic Candidate

KAREN GIFFORD for Board of Assessment Appeals

My goal as a member of the Board of Assessment Appeals would be to assure that assessments are based on accurate information, and are equitable as compared with similar buildings, land, and location. I bring decades of financial experience and an understanding of the Redding community to the task.

I retired as a Managing Director in Public Finance at Merrill Lynch, and have also worked in corporate and healthcare finance.

Having lived in Redding since 1982, first as a weekender and more recently as a permanent resident, I was delighted to be invited to serve on the Mark Twain Library Board of Trustees because it is an important community and cultural resource for all Redding's residents. I have served as Treasurer and Chair of the Finance and Investment Committees. I also volunteer for its Book Fair.

As a member of the Redding Land Trust, I have volunteered regularly to support their fundraisers and educational outreach efforts. For a New Pond Farm fundraiser, I prepared a Moroccan dinner for 30 (with help from my friends!).

I am a Trustee emerita and former Treasurer of the Kingswood-Oxford School. During my 12 years of active service I was a member of the search committee for a new head of school who was faced with rightsizing the student body and bringing the campus up to current standards. He accomplished all that and more, and went on to lead one of New York City's leading independent schools. I have also served on the Boards of the Community Service Society and the Alliance for the Arts.

I am fortunate to live in Redding, and it would be a privilege to serve on the Board of Assessment Appeals.

Republican Candidate

Frederick Miller

Fred is currently serving on the Board of Assessment Appeals and is seeking re-election for another term. Having been a Real Estate appraiser in Connecticut for the past 34 years, Fred has a wealth of knowledge and experience to contribute to this position. He has also been a Redding resident for the past 42 years so he know the town well. Fred and his wife Sharon raised three children who continue to live in town with their own families.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

PLANNING COMMISSION

Democratic Candidates

Daniel Barrett

The top issue you will address if elected.

The top issue facing the Planning Commission is the implementation and monitoring of the new Redding Plan of Conservation and Development. The plan provides the overarching vision for the Town of Redding and encompasses many goals, including conservation of open space and thoughtful residential and business development.

What other issues do you feel are important in this election?

Many other issues fall within the umbrella of the town plan. Perhaps the most crucial will be the development of the Georgetown wire mill site. The First Selectman has been making steady progress toward a reasonable resolution, and the Planning Commission will have a key role in the planning and development of that site. We need to ensure—to the extent possible—that the development is consistent with the character of our town while also enhancing both our financial base (via tax revenues) and the diversity of our residential offerings (such as affordable, multi-family housing).

Background information about yourself (elected and volunteer positions held, experience, family etc.)

I am a professor of psychology, am married and have lived in Redding since 2007. I am currently an alternate on the Planning Commission. I am a former member and Chair of the Redding Board of Ethics and a former alternate on the Redding Zoning Board of Appeals. I also sit on the Board of the Redding League of Women Voters.

Regina O'Brien

Regina O'Brien has served on the Redding Planning Commission since 2013. She is a landscape architect based in Redding. Her firm focuses on residential work throughout Connecticut and New York State, with a particular passion for creating plans based on a comprehensive understanding of the landscape and the natural processes intrinsic to a site's forms and ecosystem. Regina's extensive knowledge of landscape construction best practices, horticulture, and cultural history inform and benefit her work with the Planning Commission. As a Planning Commission member, she is committed to seeking a balance between responsible development of the land and a profound respect for a site's natural features and processes. In evaluating large and small projects that come before the Planning Commission, Regina strives for positive solutions that are in keeping with the cultural history and natural landscape of Redding as a whole.

Regina lives in Redding with her husband David Heald, having moved here from New York City in 1994. They raised two children in Redding, who were educated in the public schools and nurtured by many hours spent outdoors in the open spaces throughout the town.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS PLANNING COMMISSION

Republican Candidate

Chuck Cilo

CURRENTLY SERVING AS A COMMISSIONER ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION, CHUCK IS RESPECTFULLY SEEKING ANOTHER TERM. WITH ELECTION TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION, CHUCK WOULD CONTINUE TO PROTECT THE INTEGRITY OF REDDING'S RICH NATURAL RESOURCES, AS WELL AS THE PRESERVATION OF REDDING'S DEEP HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE AND HERITAGE. ADDITIONALLY, THE CONTINUED PURSUIT OF SOLUTIONS TOWARD THE REVITALIZATION OF THE GEORGETOWN AREA WAS, AND IS, A TOP PRIORITY. AS A CONTRIBUTOR TO THE DRAFTING OF THE 2018 TOWN PLAN OF CONSERVATION AND DEVELOPMENT, CHUCK IS KEENLY AWARE OF REDDING'S STRENGTHS AND CHALLENGES, AND COMMITTED TO ADDRESSING BOTH WITH PURPOSE AND PASSION.

CHUCK CILO IS A COMMERCIAL AND FINE ARTIST WHO HAS LIVED IN REDDING WITH HIS WIFE OF 33 YEARS, JILL, SINCE 1993. HE CURRENTLY VOLUNTEERS AT THE NEW CANAAN NATURE CENTER, CARING FOR BIRDS OF PREY.

CANDIDATE STATEMENTS

ZONING COMMISSION

Democratic Candidates

Paul Scholl

William Whitehead, Jr.

Republican Candidates



Gerry Casiello, the current Chairman, has served on the Redding Zoning Commission since 1980, at which time the current zoning regulations were being written and enacted into law in 1986. He has held the positions of Chairman and previously Vice Chairman the past 15 years, during which time he has guided Commission to act with unity and purpose. This long service has given him a unique perspective on the land use regulations in town...he understands how and why the regulations were written and how they have been enforced. Gerry has lived in Redding for 42 years and raised 3 children here. For the many of us who decided to move here in the last 4 decades, we owe a debt of gratitude to Gerry for his leadership in keeping Redding the green and great little town it is.

Redevelopment of the Georgetown wire mill looms large in the background of land use in Redding. While it's unfortunate that the nationally recognized plan for the site approved in 2004 was sidetracked with the recession of 2008, you can be assured that our zoning regulations require that any future development will take into account the best interest of all stake holders in Redding.



Matthew Lecher has been a member of the Zoning Commission since 2012, when he was appointed as an alternate. He was elected a full member in 2015 and currently holds the position of Vice Chairman. As an executive in real estate development and property management, Matthew brings strong background and expertise to the table. He and his wife are 20 year residents of Redding and have raised their 2 daughters here. He was appointed to the Historic Review Committee in 2014 and again in 2017 as the Zoning designee. He seeks to continue to contribute his time and expertise participating in upholding the Redding Zoning regulations for the town of Redding while working to help fellow residents and business owners achieve their goals within those regulations.