

The Redding Pilot

**Open-To-All Organization Meeting
January 26, 2020**

Our purpose today

- To introduce The Redding Community Newspaper Foundation Inc. and the progress to date to re-launch The Redding Pilot
- To explain the goals of the Foundation and the plans for The Redding Pilot
- To invite townspeople to join the Foundation and volunteer to help produce and publish The Redding Pilot
 - *Names and contact information*
 - *Areas of interest – ways in which you want to help*
- **To emerge from today with the nucleus of interested “citizen journalists” and people who want to help produce and publish local community news for the townspeople of Redding, Connecticut**

Progress to date

- The Redding Community Newspaper Foundation Inc. has been formed
- 501(c)(3) charitable non-profit status has been applied for



The Redding Community Newspaper Foundation Inc.

A non-profit organization fostering local community public service journalism for the townspeople of Redding, Connecticut

P.O. Box 468 Redding Ridge, CT 06876
www.thereddingpilot.org

Progress to date, continued

□ About the Foundation:

- *The Redding Community Newspaper Foundation Inc. was formed in 2019 with the purpose of resurrecting The Redding Pilot newspaper*
- *The Foundation is committed to fostering local community public service journalism, and producing and publishing a non-profit, tax exempt local community-based newspaper for the townspeople of Redding, Connecticut*

Progress to date, continued

- About the Foundation, continued:
 - *Unlike a for profit newspaper that is subscription revenue-based, the Redding Community Newspaper Foundation will be largely funded through charitable grants, donations, and voluntary membership dues. All residents of Redding will receive the new Redding Pilot newspaper in the mail; distribution will not be limited to members or donors. The new Redding Pilot will be an education and civic resource for the entire community.*
 - *All of the grants, donations and voluntary dues, as well as any other payments received by the Foundation for any purpose will be used solely to operate the Foundation and publish the Redding Pilot.*

Progress to date, continued

□ About the Foundation, continued:

- *The Foundation will not, as a substantial part of its activities, attempt to influence legislation or participate to any extent in a political campaign for or against any candidate for public office.*
- *The Foundation will operate a newspaper, which may publish, on a non-partisan basis and solely for informational and educational purposes, articles related to government functions at the local, state and national level, and will provide information related to elections and related activities.*
- *The newspaper will also serve as a community forum where members of the public may engage in political debate about ongoing issues, including election issues and candidates.*

Progress to date, continued

- The Redding Pilot® trademark has been applied for with the USPTO and posted – formal approval expected within 6 months
- The Foundation has signed an agreement with Hersam-Acorn (the previous owner of the paper) transferring the ownership of the rights and assets (copyright) to The Redding Community Newspaper Foundation Inc.
- The URL and email addresses for the Foundation have been set up:
 - *editor@thereddingpilot.org*
 - *volunteer@thereddingpilot.org*

Target First Issue Date is April 23

88 *Days*

We Need Volunteers

Please complete the sign-up sheet and volunteer

Name:

Email Address:

Phone Number:

How you would like to help:

Ways to Help

Content Development

- *Reporting (provide the “beat” you would like to cover)*
- *Editing*
- *Curating (organizing content, recruiting writers, managing deadlines)*
- *Photography*
- *Design/layout*
- *Other*

Advertising Sales

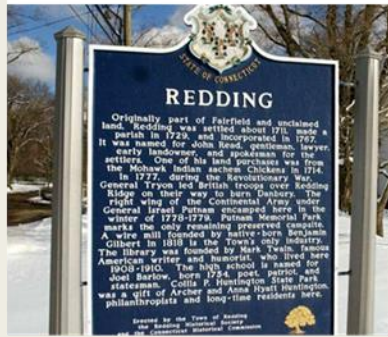
Circulation/Distribution

Membership/fundraising/grant applications

Administration

All other!!!

The Redding Pilot



For 50 years, the local community newspaper for the townspeople of Redding, CT

Content Areas

- News and photos (local primarily, regional next ?)
- Sports
- Local Events Calendar
- Letters to the Editor
- Editorials
- Features/Opinions/Op Ed
- Arts & Culture (feature stories, reviews, excerpts)
- Literary Works (Poems, Cartoons, Photos, book reviews etc.)
- Food and Drink (recipes, restaurant reviews, wine/beer reviews and recos, etc.)
- From the Archives (Redding history from Pilot archives and Redding Historical Society)
- Schools News (lunch menus, events, PTA-supplied articles)
- Senior news/Senior Center

Content Areas, continued

- News from Hartford (What's happening in the State Capital – maybe co-branded with The Hartford Courant)
- Obituaries
- Police Blotter (?)
- Crossword/Puzzles
- Weddings/Engagements
- “Bully Pulpit” – rotating articles from political/community leaders including State and Federal Co
- Volunteer Venues – regular feature identifying ways in which community members can become involved
- Celebrate Redding – news/content from local organizations from MTL to NPF to Boys & Girls Club to Scouts to faith-based groups, etc.
- Local Weather
- Park & Rec/Community Center events
- Real Estate news