Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education  
Special Meeting  
Wednesday, May 31, 2017, 5:00 p.m.  
Community College of Rhode Island  
Room 4080  
400 East Avenue  
Warwick, Rhode Island 02886

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, May 31, 2017, at the at Community College of Rhode Island, Room 4080, Warwick, Rhode Island. At 5:05 p.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone. He then asked for the roll to be taken, after which he declared a quorum present.

Present:  Vivian Caruolo, Maria Chavez Blanco (arrived at 5:07 p.m.), Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Thomas Izzo and Jeffery Williams.

Absent:  Rachelle Green

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Chair Foulkes entertained a motion to accept the agenda.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of May 31, 2017.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Vivian Caruolo, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Thomas Izzo and Jeffery Williams
2. ACTION ITEMS

2a) Approval of Appointment of Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Rhode Island College.

Chair Foulkes invited Frank Sanchez, President of Rhode Island College, to give background before the vote. President Sanchez shared his delight to recommend Dr. Hamilton as the top finalist for the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs because of his academic leadership, research acumen, and diverse background serving various higher education institutions across the country, including New England.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was:

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the appointment of Joshua W. Hamilton, Ph.D. as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Rhode Island College.

**VOTE:** 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Vivian Caruolo, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Thomas Izzo and Jeffery Williams

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0
2b) Approval of Appointment of Vice President for Student Success at Rhode Island College.

Chair Foulkes invited Frank Sanchez, President of Rhode Island College, to give background before the vote. President Sanchez shared his delight to recommend Dr. Meriwether as the top finalist for the Vice President for Student Success because of his extensive experience in student affairs and enrollment management; his high energy, student-focused approach and his proven leadership at higher education institutions across the country.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Dennis Duffy and seconded by Timothy DelGiudice, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves that appointment of Jason L. Meriwether, Ph.D., as Vice President for Student Success at Rhode Island College.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Vivian Caruolo, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Thomas Izzo and Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

2c) Approval of the renovations to the President’s House at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes invited Vern Wyman, Assistant Vice President for Business Services at the University of Rhode Island, to give background before the vote. Vern Wyman shared that the proposed renovations to the President’s house are in compliance with the President’s employment contract (Section 3(d): “…residence shall be maintained at the expense of the University of Rhode Island and Council shall maintain and repair the President’s residence and its grounds as necessary.”
Chair Foulkes called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Jeffery Williams and seconded by Timothy DelGiudice, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the improvements and renovations to the President’s home at the University of Rhode Island in accordance with the President’s employment contract with the Council on Postsecondary Education.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Vivian Caruolo, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Thomas Izzo and Jeffery Williams

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

2d) Approval of an Agricultural Land Lease between the Council on Postsecondary Education/University of Rhode Island and Kingston Turf Farms, Inc.

Chair Foulkes invited Vern Wyman, Assistant Vice President for Business Services at the University of Rhode Island, to give background before the vote. Vern Wyman explained that he lease helps the University fulfill its mission as a Land Grant institution and will generate over $111,000 of income annually for the University.

Timothy DelGiudice asked about the use of the land. Vern Wyman responded that the land is a public field used by local soccer teams. Thomas Izzo wanted to know where the funds were directed to. Vern Wyman responded that the funds were held in the general fund of the University of Rhode Island.

Chair Foulkes called for a motion.
On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Thomas Izzo, it was:

**VOTED: THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the Land Lease between the Council on Postsecondary Education/URI and authorizes the Chairman to execute the final form of the Lease subject to the review and acceptance by the General Counsel. Upon approval and signature by the Chairman of the Council, the Lease will be presented to the State Properties Committee for final approval and execution.

**VOTE:** 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Vivian Caruolo, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Thomas Izzo and Jeffery Williams

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS:** 0

3. ADJOURNMENT

Chair Foulkes called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of May 31, 2017.

On a motion duly made by Timothy DelGiudice and seconded by Heather Crosby, it was:

**VOTED: THAT** The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns the meeting of May 31, 2017.

**VOTE:** 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Vivian Caruolo, Barbara Cottam, Heather Crosby, Timothy DelGiudice, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Thomas Izzo and Jeffery Williams
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjorned at 5:23 p.m.