Chair Timothy DelGiudice welcomed everyone and acknowledged that a quorum was present at 5:35 pm.

Present: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

Absent: Rachelle Green and Michael Mello.

1. Acceptance of the Agenda

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to approve the agenda.

On a motion duly made by Thomas Izzo and seconded by Jeffery Williams, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the agenda for the meeting of July 24, 2019, as presented.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

2. Approval of the minutes
2a) Minutes of the June 19, 2019 meeting.
2b) Minutes of the July 10, 2019 meeting.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to approve the minutes.

On a motion duly made by Thomas Izzo and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes of the meetings on June 19, 2019, July 10, 2019.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

3. Reports from the Chairs

3a) Chair DelGiudice discussed the state budget updates, highlighting the many changes to higher education and the addition of the new URI board of trustees. He also noted he had several conversations with President Dooley to determine what the beginning stages of developing the new board of trustees will entail. He noted the significant budget reduction of $1 million and loss of six full-time staff at OPC. He noted that all affected OPC employees have been notified and expressed his gratitude to the OPC staff and Council members in assisting to make these difficult decisions. He gave updates on the posting for Commissioner and noted that a search committee is in place to expedite the process. Lastly, he mentioned that all of the proposed budgets will be reviewed during the month of September.

3b) Chair Cottam announced that the Board of Education gave the authority to Commissioner Infante-Green to have state authority over Providence Public Schools. Commissioner Infante-Green will put forth a draft order to four parties who have standing— the Providence Mayor, the Providence School Board, the Providence City Council and the Providence Superintendent. These parties will have 30 days to show cause why the State should not proceed with this action. Following this process, the
Commissioner will enter a final order and the authority will transfer over to the State. Additionally, the Commissioner will be appointing a State superintendent to run the Providence school district.

4. Open Forum
No one signed up to speak.

5. Report from the Commissioner

a) Acting Commissioner Cavallaro highlighted items from his report, noting that Rhode Island was one of 13 states invited to apply for a correctional education grant, in which OPC would partner with the Department of Corrections. He went on to say that the OPC office work continues in light of the recent layoffs. Westerly Education Center hosted several summer programs for teens and recent high school graduates. He noted that CFO Zach Saul will be leaving the office and moving on to serve as the CFO of the town of South Kingstown.

b) Notices of new programs and/or changes that were submitted and reviewed for notification to the Council:

Chair DelGiudice asked that the notifications from the following institutions be read into the record and the Council be considered notified. He also asked if Council members had any questions or comments that needed to be addressed before moving forward with the agenda. There were none.

a. Notification of change to the Wellness and Movement Studies concentration to become an independent major, to be called Wellness and Exercise Science at Rhode Island College.

b. Notification of change of a BS in Community Health & Wellness will be called the BS in Community & Public Health Promotion at Rhode Island College.

c. Notification of the Recreation and Leisure studies concentration to be discontinued at Rhode Island College.

d. Notification of creation of new courses in the undergraduate Special Education curriculum that are equivalent to courses in the graduate program and provide a pathway for graduates to move into the Master of Education program at Rhode Island College.

e. Notice of changes to the admissions criteria for graduate programs at Rhode Island College.

f. Notification of creation of BS in Health Sciences concentration at Rhode Island College.
g. Notification of creation of a Health Sciences minor at Rhode Island College.

h. Notification of the elimination of Food Safety concentration at Rhode Island College.

i. Notification of changes to admissions criteria for the BA/MA Justice Studies at Rhode Island College.

j. Notification of creation of the International Business interdisciplinary minor at Rhode Island College.

k. Notification of creation of an accelerated/early admission pathway from the BSW to MSW program at Rhode Island College.

6. President Reports

6a) Community College of Rhode Island - Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education – Enrollment and Retention Report.

CCRI Associate Vice President Alix Ogden noted that CCRI provided the data to the Council on enrollment and retention rates by area of study. She highlighted the Guided Pathways model, which was adopted two years ago. In the fall of 2019, students will be enrolled in one of seven academic and career paths. She stated that community colleges that implement this model have seen completion rates rise from 22% to upwards of 40%. In addition, student retention and credit accumulation rates have improved because of this model. She congratulated and thanked four faculty members for their recognition from the National Institute for Staff and Institutional Development. Additionally, she announced new additions to the CCRI team, Sybil Bailey as the Director of Human Resources, Chintan Desai as the new Manager of Executive Operations, and Sean Collins as Chief of CCRI Police Department.

6b) Rhode Island College- Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education – Enrollment and Retention Report.

Rhode Island College Executive Director of Strategic Initiatives Clark Greene presented on enrollment by major and retention rates. He stated RIC is in a period of declining enrollment. From 2009-2018, there has been an 11% decline in undergraduate enrollment. RIC believes they are well prepared and poised for success to address the enrollment issues by campaigning, advertising on television, moving to professional advising, increasing fund raising to keep students and reviewing and refreshing curriculum. There are many fields that are experiencing
growth over the past five years including emerging sciences, arts, business and public administration, and health sciences. He stated that there are also programs experiencing decline; for example, the School of Education has seen a decline. RI College revamped the School of Education as a result of RIDE’s review to ensure the program is more relevant and streamlined. They expect the program numbers to grow as a result of the program revamp.

Mr. Greene provided an example of a cohort of students which was followed over six years to provide retention and graduation rates by major that described continuity. He explained that RIC has a higher transfer rate of first generation students switching majors. RIC is planning to strengthen advising to assist with this issue. New incoming undergraduate students are not equipped to do the work due to not being prepared during high school; this is an issue nationwide.

6c) University of Rhode Island - Updates and issues affecting local and national higher education – Enrollment and Retention Report.

University of Rhode Island Provost DeHayes shared retention and enrollment numbers. URI in 2018 had the third highest enrollment numbers in institutional history. He reviewed the academic strategic plan and retention plan for the University. He highlighted the opening of the engineering building and the growth of the College of Engineering, along with the College of Health Sciences and the College of Business. He also highlighted two primary categories hindering retention at URI currently; the first are students struggling academically. Second are students who are not utilizing the services at URI, such as advising and other related services. Provost DeHayes also highlighted that spending less than 50% of student’s time on campus on the weekends negatively affects retention. Alternative measures of advising are being implemented to assist with addressing numerous issues with retention of students at URI. Transition programs throughout the University are being upgraded. Provost DeHayes answered several questions from Council Members.

7. Discussion Items.

7a) Review of FY 2021-2025 Community College of Rhode Island Capital Improvement Plan.
Alix Ogden and Kristen Albritton provided a detailed overview of the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). The following are highlights of the CCRI CIP. Ms. Albritton reviewed the infrastructure deferred maintenance plan at CCRI. She outlined the figures and strategic plan to upgrade technology, furniture, and various upgrades to CCRI at all four campuses. Additionally, she reviewed the bonds being requested. Ms. Ogden reviewed the slides for the physical redesign upgrades to the Knight Campus in great detail. A goal to improve energy efficiency will be addressed by updating the current electrical systems and updating the existing ramp on the Knight Campus. In conclusion, the CCRI Capital Improvement Plan aims to invest in student success and address deferred maintenance. Ms. Ogden answered various questions from Council members.

7b) Review of FY 2021-2025 Rhode Island College Capital Improvement Plan.
Clark Greene introduced Jeff Martin, the Assistant Vice President for Administration and Finance, who provided an overview of the Capital Improvement Plan. He provided updates on the Horace Mann Hall renovations and an overview of the projected GO Bond and RICAP requests, along with a general summary of all requests. He outlined the figures and strategic plan to upgrade technology, furniture, and various upgrades to Horace Mann Hall. He highlighted a request for funds contingent upon a feasibility study being conducted for the science and technology building. This study will determine whether it makes sense to make the significant deferred maintenance on the existing building or to commission the construction of a new building. Additionally, he highlighted major upcoming renovation requests to the buildings housing Admissions, Adams Library, and Whipple Hall which are all in dire need of repairs. Mr. Martin concluded his presentation and answered various questions from Council members.

7c) Review of FY 2021-2025 University of Rhode Island Capital Improvement Plan.
Provost DeHayes introduced Ryan Carrillo, who presented the URI Capital Improvement Plan. He highlighted upcoming GO Bonds with detail on three projects, the Fine Arts Center, the URI Bay Campus Renovation, and the Ryan Institute Laboratory facility project.

Mr. Carrillo provided a high-level overview of the planned projects. He highlighted that the plan is to have 60% of projects be state-funded and the additional 40% funded through non-state
funding sources. The total request is $185.7 million. Mr. Carrillo explained the asset protection request in elaborate detail and answered numerous questions from Council members.

8) Action Items

8a) Approval of RI-SARA application for the Community College of Rhode Island.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Dennis Duffy, and seconded by Jeffery Williams, it was

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the RI-SARA application for the Community College of Rhode Island.

**VOTE:** 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

**ABSTAINS** 0

8b) Approval of the appointment of the Vice President for Administration and Finance position at Rhode Island College.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Marianne Monte, and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the appointment of the Vice President for Administration and Finance position at Rhode Island College.

**VOTE:** 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

8c) Approval of faculty tenure at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Marianne Monte, and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves of faculty tenure at the University of Rhode Island.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

8d) Approval of exemption from the University of Rhode Island regarding Prof. Albert Kausch in accordance with the Rhode Island Public/Private Partnership Act at the University of Rhode Island.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion.

On a motion duly made by Marianne Monte, and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves of exemption from the University of Rhode Island regarding Prof. Albert Kausch in accordance with the Rhode Island Public/Private Partnership Act at the University of Rhode Island.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:
YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINS 0

9) Executive Session

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to enter into Executive Session for the following items:

9a) Discussion regarding collective bargaining pursuant to R.I.G.L §42-46-5(a)(2) - with the following:
   i. Local 2012 – update on negotiations.
   ii. Rhode Island College Adjunct Faculty Association – update on negotiations.

On a motion duly made by Marianne Monte, and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education enters into executive session.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.
NAYS: 0
ABSTAINS 0

The Council entered in Executive Session at 6:21 PM. All non-Council members in attendance were excused.

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 6:30 pm.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to seal the minutes of the Executive Session.

On a motion duly made by Marianne Monte, and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was
VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education seals the minutes of the Executive Session held on July 24, 2019.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

10. Additional Action Items

10a) Approval of contract ratification for Local 2012.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion.
On a motion duly made by Thomas Izzo and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the contract ratification for Local 2012.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS 0

11. Upcoming Meeting

The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for September 4, 2019 at 5:30p.m. at the University of Rhode Island - Higgins Welcome Center.

12. Adjournment
Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to adjourn the meeting of the Council on July 24, 2019.

On a motion duly made by Rachelle Green and seconded by Jeffery Williams, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourns the meeting of July 24, 2019.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Marianne Monte, Barbara Mullen, and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting Adjourned at 6:33 pm.