



**Council on Postsecondary Education Meeting
Wednesday, May 6, 2020, 5:00 p.m.
560 Jefferson Blvd., Warwick, RI 02886**

**PURSUANT TO GOVERNOR RAIMONDO'S EXECUTIVE ORDER
20-25, THIS MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY.
MINUTES**

Chair Timothy DelGiudice called this remote meeting to order at 5:02 p.m. and acknowledged that a quorum was present via the Zoom meeting platform. He thanked everyone for their patience and flexibility during such an unexpected time.

The Council on Postsecondary Education learned that its meeting held remotely on April 29, 2020 was not completely broadcast live on Facebook, despite best efforts of trying various technology workarounds to provide public access. As such, the Council scheduled this publicly accessible meeting to once again take up the action items that were on the April 29th agenda.

Chair DelGiudice recognized Council members participating remotely:

Timothy DelGiudice, Chair, Council on Postsecondary Education
Barbara Cottam, Chair, Board of Education
Dennis Duffy
Rachelle Green
Thomas Izzo
Michael Mello
Marianne Monte
Jeffery Williams

Also present for the meeting were Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (RIOPC) staff and Rhode Island College (RIC) participants:

Ronald Cavallaro, Esq., Acting Commissioner, General Counsel
Anne Marie Coleman, Esq., Director of Labor Relations
Susan Mansolillo, Chief Financial Officer
Dr. Tammy Warner, Assistant Commissioner, Academic and Student Affairs
Amy Grzybowski, Executive Director, Westerly Education Center
Beth Bailey, Marketing Director, Westerly Education Center
Jhanay Davis, Public Information Officer
John Knight, Technical Support Specialist III
Lynn Owens, Assistant to the Commissioner

Clark Greene, RIC Executive Director for Strategic Initiatives/Chief of Staff
Dr. Sue Pearlmuter, RIC Interim Provost/Vice President, Academic Affairs

1. Acceptance of the Agenda

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for this meeting.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of May 6, 2020.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

2. Approval of the Minutes

A. Minutes of the March 24, 2020 meeting.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes of the meeting held March 24, 2020.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Monte and seconded by Ms. Green, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes of the meeting held March 24, 2020.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

3. Reports from the Chairs

None

4. Report from the Commissioner

None

5. Reports from the Presidents

None

6. Action Items

A. Approval of awarding of degrees

I. Community College of Rhode Island

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, and certificates to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Spring 2020 semester at the Community College of Rhode Island.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Green and seconded by Mr. Duffy, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, and certificates to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Spring 2020 semester at the Community College of Rhode Island.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

II. Rhode Island College

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, and certificates to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Spring 2020 semester at Rhode Island College.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Green and seconded by Mr. Mello, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees, diplomas, and certificates to the candidates who will have completed their requirements at the conclusion of the Spring 2020 semester at Rhode Island College.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

B. Approval of Non-SARA application for National University

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve National University's application to operate/offer distance learning programs in Rhode Island as a non-SARA, private, non-profit institution.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Mello and seconded by Mr. Izzo, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves National University's application to operate/offer distance learning programs in Rhode Island as a non-SARA, private, non-profit institution.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

C. Approval of RI-SARA application for Rhode Island School of Design

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the Rhode Island School of Design's application to become an RI-SARA institution.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Green and seconded by Chair Cottam, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the Rhode Island School of Design's application to become an RI-SARA institution.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

D. Ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding Creating a COVID-19 Incident Command System between the Council/Rhode Island College and the City of Central Falls and Regarding the Lease of Property at 934 Dexter Street, Central Falls, Rhode Island.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education ratify the Memorandum of Understanding, creating a COVID-19 Incident Command System between the Council/Rhode Island College and the City of Central Falls, and regarding the lease of property at 934 Dexter Street, Central Falls, Rhode Island, which was executed by the Council Chair on April 22, 2020 and the President of Rhode Island College on April 24, 2020.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Monte and seconded by Mr. Mello, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the ratification of the Memorandum of Understanding, creating a COVID-19 Incident Command System between the Council/Rhode Island College and the City of Central Falls, and regarding the lease of property at 934 Dexter

Street, Central Falls, Rhode Island, which was executed by the Council Chair on April 22, 2020 and the President of Rhode Island College on April 24, 2020.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

E. Approval of the appointment of the new Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Rhode Island College

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the appointment of Dr. Helen Tate as Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs at Rhode Island College.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Izzo and seconded by Mr. Mello, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the appointment of Dr. Helen Tate as the new 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.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

7. Executive Session

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education enter Executive Session for the following items:

A. Discussion regarding potential litigation, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2)

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- B. Discussion regarding the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(5)

On a motion duly made by Ms. Green and seconded by Mr. Mello, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education enter into Executive Session for the following items:

- A. Discussion regarding potential litigation pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5 (a) (2).
- B. Discussion regarding the acquisition or lease of real property for public purposes pursuant to R.I.G.L. § 42-46-5 (a) (5).

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The Council entered Executive Session at 5:21 p.m. Virtual public access was paused.

The Council reconvened in Open Session at 5:33 p.m. Virtual public access resumed.

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the Executive Sessions held on April 29, 2020 and May 6, 2020.

On a motion duly made by Ms. Monte and seconded by Mr. Mello, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the Executive Sessions held on April 29, 2020 and May 6, 2020.

VOTE: 8 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

8. Upcoming Meetings

- A. The next meeting of the Board of Education is scheduled for May 27, 2020.
- B. The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for June 17, 2020.

9. Adjourn

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to adjourn tonight's meeting.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Ms. Green, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn the meeting of May 6, 2020.

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

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, Thomas Izzo, Rachelle Green, Michael Mello, Marianne Monte and Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

This meeting adjourned at 5:35 p.m.