



**Council on Postsecondary Education Special Meeting
Wednesday, March 31, 2021, 5:30 p.m.**

**PURSUANT TO
GOVERNOR MCKEE'S EXECUTIVE ORDER 20-46,
THIS MEETING WAS HELD REMOTELY.**

MINUTES

Chair Timothy DelGiudice called this remote special meeting to order at 5:36 p.m. and acknowledged that a quorum was present via the Zoom webinar platform.

Council on Postsecondary Education members present:

Timothy DelGiudice, Chair, Council on Postsecondary Education
Barbara Cottam, Chair, Board of Education
Rachelle Green
Thomas Izzo
Michael Mello
Marianne Monte
Mackenzie Raimond

Rhode Island Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner (RIOPC) staff present:

Shannon Gilkey, Commissioner
Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations
Ronald Cavallaro, Esq., General Counsel
Susan Mansolillo, Chief Financial Officer
Tammy Warner, Ph.D., Assistant Commissioner, Academic and Student Affairs

Community College of Rhode Island (CCRI) participants:

Meghan Hughes, Ph.D., President

Rhode Island College (RIC) participants:

Frank Sánchez, Ph.D., President
Clark Greene, Executive Director for Strategic Initiatives, Chief of Staff
Stephen Nedder, Vice President, Administration and Finance

Chair DelGiudice noted that public access was provided to attendees of this Zoom webinar in compliance with the Open Meetings Act and the provisions of the Executive Order and provided contact information for those experiencing technical difficulties.

1. Acceptance of the Agenda

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of March 31, 2021.

On a motion duly made by Michael Mello and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accepts the agenda for the meeting of March 31, 2021.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, and Marianne Monte

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

2. Approval of the Minutes

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on February 17, 2021, as presented.

On a motion duly made by Michael Mello and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the minutes of the meeting that took place on February 17, 2021, as presented.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, and Marianne Monte

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

3. Report from the Commissioner

Commissioner Gilkey opened his report by sharing that the office has received notices of new programs at the colleges. Rhode Island College has established new non-degree certificate programs in Medical Interpreter Training in Portuguese-English, Public Health

& Equity Sign Language Interpreter, and Spanish-English Medical Interpreter. Commissioner Gilkey shared that the office has reviewed the proposed new programs and the establishment of these programs is within the role and scope of RIC, therefore, council approval is not required.

Commissioner Gilkey also shared that the Community College of Rhode Island has established new certificate programs in Administrative Management, Workplace Essentials, and Software Development. Commissioner Gilkey shared that the office has reviewed the proposed new programs and the establishment of these programs is within the role and scope of CCRI, therefore, council approval is not required.

4. Discussion Items

Chairman DelGiudice introduced General Counsel, Ronald Cavallaro, for a discussion regarding proposed amendments to the Council's Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures.

General Counsel Cavallaro shared that these proposed edits to the recently approved Title IX Sexual Harassment Policy and Procedures result from the input of the Title IX coordinators and other staff at CCRI and RIC who have started working with and applying the policy. Both Title IX coordinators recommended corrections and fine-tuning of language. These proposed amendments have also been reviewed and approved by Kristine M. Zayko, Esq. who drafted the Title IX policy for the Council.

Ronald Cavallaro also stated that this was on the agenda for discussion only under the Council's policy on adopting policies. He stated that changes are noticed and discussed at one meeting and then voted on in a subsequent meeting.

Thomas Izzo asked if it is anticipated that we're going to see changes from the federal level with the new leadership at the Department of Education, and Ronald Cavallaro responded that he anticipates that the new administration will review the Title IX regulations and begin the process to amend them.

Chairman DelGiudice reiterated that this will be an action item for the next meeting and that all the red line changes will be provided in advance.

5. Action Items

- A. Approval of an Application from ACE Home Health Aide Training School, LLC., to Operate as Proprietary School in Rhode Island.

Chairman DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the application from ACE Home Health Aide Training School, LLC., to Operate as Proprietary School in Rhode Island.

On a motion duly made by Michael Mello and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the

application from ACE Home Health Aide Training School, LLC, to operate as a proprietary School in Rhode Island.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, and Marianne Monte

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

B. Approval of a Change in Proprietary School Ownership and Name from New Horizons Computer Learning Center to United Training Academy.

Chairman DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approves a Change in Proprietary School Ownership and Name from New Horizons Computer Learning Center to United Training Academy.

On a motion duly made by Marianne Monte and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves a Change in Proprietary School Ownership and Name from New Horizons Computer Learning Center to United Training Academy.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, and Marianne Monte

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

C. Approval of Position Reclassification at CCRI: Assistant Director - Finance, CCRI Foundation to Director of Finance and Operations, Institutional Advancement and CCRI Foundation.

Chairman DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approves the position reclassification at CCRI: Assistant Director - Finance, CCRI Foundation to Director of Finance and Operations, Institutional Advancement and CCRI Foundation.

On a motion duly made by Michael Mello and seconded by Marianne Monte, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approves the Position Reclassification at CCRI: Assistant Director – Finance, CCRI Foundation to Director of Finance and Operations, Institutional Advancement and CCRI Foundation.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, and Marianne Monte

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

D. Approval of Proposed FY2021 Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program at Rhode Island College.

Chairman DelGiudice called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the proposal of the FY2021 Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program at Rhode Island College.

A motion was duly made by Thomas Izzo and seconded by Rachelle Green.

Chairman DelGiudice then recognized President Sanchez for a discussion of this item. Vice President Nedder then shared that for several years they have tried unsuccessfully to locate/obtain funding for an early retirement plan. He indicated the proposed plan has offerings and eligibility consistent with what was previously developed. He shared that through the recommendation of Ronald Cavallaro they have worked with outside legal counsel to ensure that the College is following any statutory requirements and rules.

Michael Mello asked if there were any ramifications for other schools that may or may not be offering this program. Vice President Nedder responded that historically this has not been done in conjunction with other schools. Ronald Cavallaro added that it has been the school's to offer an early retirement program with the approval of the Council. Anne Marie Coleman added that in the past, there were also system-wide retirement incentives that were approved by the Board of Governors. In recent years it has been left up to the school's discretion.

Chairman DelGiudice stated that there was already a motion made and seconded, so he asked for a vote.

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the

the proposed FY2021 Voluntary Retirement Incentive Program at Rhode Island College.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello, and Marianne Monte

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

6. Upcoming Meetings

Chairman DelGiudice announced that the next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education will be Wednesday, April 21, 2021 (5:30 pm)

Remaining 2021 Meetings

June 23, 2021	September 15, 2021
July 21, 2021	October 13, 2021
	December 8, 2021

7. Adjourn

Chair DelGiudice called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

On a motion duly made by Michael Mello and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn the meeting of March 31, 2021.

VOTE: 6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Timothy DelGiudice, Barbara Cottam, Rachelle Green, Thomas Izzo, Michael Mello and Marianne Monte

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 5:57 PM