



Special Meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education
Wednesday, May 15, 2024

Community College of Rhode Island
400 East Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886, Room 4080
Meeting Minutes

Chair David Caprio called this meeting to order at 4:47 p.m. and acknowledged that a quorum was present.

Council on Postsecondary Education members present:

David Caprio, Chair, Council on Postsecondary Education
Dennis Duffy
Rachelle Green entered at 4:57 p.m.
Michael Grey
Thomas Izzo
Lawrence Purtill
Marcy Reyes

Council on Postsecondary Education members absent:

Michael Mello
Jeffery Williams

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

Shannon Gilkey, Commissioner
Ronald Cavallaro, Esq., General Counsel
Anne Marie Coleman, Assistant Commissioner of Human Resources Labor Relations
Zachary Saul, Chief Financial Officer
Beth Bailey, Chief Communications Officer
Jackie Xiong, Executive Assistant to the Commissioner, Special Liaison to the Council on Postsecondary Education

Rhode Island College staff present:

Jack Warner, Interim President
Sara Enright, Interim Vice President for Administration and Finance
Jenifer Giroux, Vice President of Corporate Relations and Professional Studies
Cindy Kozil, Vice President for Student Success

Carolynn Masters, Vice President of Academic Affairs

Community College of Rhode Island staff present:

Amy Kempe, Executive Director, Marketing, Communications & External Affairs,
Newport County Campus Leader
Alix Ogden, Vice President Institutional Equity, Human Resources, & OD
Rich Sullivan, Vice President, Administration & Finance

1. Acceptance of the Agenda

Chair Caprio asked for a motion to accept the agenda for the meeting of May 15, 2024.

On a motion made by Marcy Reyes and seconded by Lawrence Purtill, it was:

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of May 15, 2024.
	VOTE:	6 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
	YEAS:	David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.
	NAYS:	0
	ABSTAINS:	0

2. Approval of the minutes

A. Minutes of the April 17, 2024, CPE Meeting.

Chair Caprio called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on April 17, 2024.

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Marcy Reyes, it was:

VOTED:	THAT	The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the minutes of the meeting that took place on April 17, 2024, as presented.
	VOTE:	7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.
	YEAS:	David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.
	NAYS:	0

ABSTAINS: 0

3. Action Item

- A.** Approval of the Proposed Amendment to the Council on Postsecondary Education Policy on Transfer (Policy S-6), as recommended by the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee.

On a motion duly made by Rachelle Green and seconded by Dennis Duffy, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve of the Proposed Amendment to the Council on Postsecondary Education Policy on Transfer (Policy S-6), as recommended by the Academic Affairs and Student Success Committee.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

Council Member Thomas Izzo asked for clarification regarding the proposed transfer policy. Assistant Commissioner Greg Ebner confirmed that the proposed policy would remove the AFA and AS degrees as they do not meet the same criteria. Vice President of Academic Affairs, Carolynn Masters, gave further clarification on how Rhode Island College reviews AFA and AS credits from CCRI. President Jack Warner added that the AFA and AS degrees that were stricken from the policy did not align with the required number of credits as did the AA degree.

Council Member Marcy Reyes inquired about the current students at CCRI pursuing AFA and AS degrees and the credits they've already accumulated. Assistant Commissioner Ebner confirmed that those students will still receive full credit and undergo an articulation analysis to determine which credits would be applicable. Council Member Reyes shared her concerns regarding the impact of the proposed transfer policy. President Rosemary Costigan stated that since the policy had been implemented in May of 2023, she believes there would be a low impact on students.

- B.** Approval of the proposed Amendments to the Joint Alternate Retirement Plan Committee's Mission and Composition Statement.

On a motion duly made by Marcy Reyes and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the proposed Amendments to the Joint Alternate Retirement Plan Committee’s Mission and Composition Statement.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

C. Approval of the new classification of Educational Advocate I (Surrogate Parent) at Rhode Island College, as recommended by the Personnel Review Committee.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the new classification of Educational Advocate I (Surrogate Parent) at Rhode Island College, as recommended by the Personnel Review Committee.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

D. Approval of the new classification of Technical Assistance Specialist, Early Intervention II at Rhode Island College, as recommended by the Personnel Review Committee.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the new classification of Technical Assistance Specialist, Early Intervention II at Rhode Island College, as recommended by the Personnel Review Committee.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members

voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

- E.** Approval of the upgrade to Associate Director of Sherlock Center on Disabilities at Rhode Island College, as recommended by the Personnel Review Committee.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the upgrade to Associate Director of Sherlock Center on Disabilities at Rhode Island College, as recommended by the Personnel Review Committee.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

4. Executive Session

Chair Caprio called for a motion that the Council enter executive session for the following:

- A.** Discussion regarding collective bargaining – all bargaining units and the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement with the CCRI Faculty Association (NEA/CCRIFA), pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).
- B.** Discussion regarding potential litigation, pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

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

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

- A.** Discussion regarding collective bargaining – all bargaining units and the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement with the CCRI Faculty Association (NEA/CCRIFA), pursuant to R.I.G.L. §42-46-5(a)(2).

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

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.

NAYS : 0

ABSTAINS: 0

**The Council entered Executive Session at 5:06 PM.
The Council reconvened in Open Session at 5:16 PM.**

Chair Caprio called for a motion that the Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the Executive Session held on May 15, 2024.

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the Executive Session held on May 15, 2024.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green, Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

5. Additional Action Item

A. Ratification of the Tentative Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Council and the Community College of Rhode Island Faculty Association (NEA/CCRIFA).

On a motion duly made by Marcy Reyes and seconded by Michael Grey, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve the ratification of the Tentative Collective

Bargaining

Agreement between the Council and the
Community College of Rhode Island Faculty
Association (NEA/CCRIFA).

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green,
Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and
Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

**B. Approval of a 2.5% across the board salary increase for all non-union non classified
Council employees.**

On a motion duly made by Lawrence Purtill and seconded by Rachelle Green, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve
a 2.5% across the board salary increase for all
non-union non classified Council employees.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members
voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green,
Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and
Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

6. Next Meeting

Chair Caprio stated that the next Council on Postsecondary Education meeting will be on
June 26, 2024, at 5:30 PM at the Rhode Island Nursing Education Center.

7. Adjourn

Chair Caprio called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

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

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary adjourn the meeting
on May 15, 2024.

VOTE: 7 members voted in the affirmative and

0 members voted in the negative.

YEAS: David Caprio, Dennis Duffy, Rachelle Green,
Michael Grey, Thomas Izzo, Lawrence Purtill, and
Marcy Reyes.

NAYS: 0

ABSTAINS: 0

The meeting adjourned at 5:18 PM.