Minutes of the Council on Postsecondary Education
Special Meeting
Wednesday, December 16, 2015, 5:30 p.m.
Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner
560 Jefferson Blvd., Suite 100, McKenna Conference Room
Warwick, RI 02886

The Council on Postsecondary Education met on Wednesday, December 16, 2015, at the Office of the Postsecondary Commissioner in Warwick, RI. At 5:30 p.m. Chair William Foulkes welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. He then asked for the roll to be taken.

Present: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy (arrived at 6:05 pm), William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo (arrived at 5:35 pm), Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John Rainone, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

Absent: 

The Chair declared that there was a quorum present.

1. ACCEPTANCE OF THE AGENDA

Chair Foulkes entertained a motion to accept the agenda. On a motion duly made by Mr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Bernstein, it was

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education accept the agenda for the meeting of December 16, 2016, as presented.

VOTE: 9 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:
YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0
2. EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:31 p.m. Chair William Foulkes entertained a motion to enter into Executive Session for:

a) Discussion regarding the employment contract for the new President of the Community College of Rhode Island pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(1).

b) Discussion related to RIC Personnel Action pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5 (a)(1).

The Chair noted for the record that the individuals involved with these two items have been notified of their rights to have these discussions take place on open session, and no objection to proceeding into executive session has been received.

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

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

Discussion regarding the employment contract for the new President of CCRI pursuant to RIGL §42-46-5 (a)(1); and

Discussion related to RIC Personnel Action pursuant to RIGL§42-46-5 (a)(1).

VOTE: 9 members voted in the affirmative and no members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0
All non-Council members in the audience were excused with the exception of:
- Dr. Purcell, Commissioner of Postsecondary Education;
- Anne Marie Coleman, Director of Labor Relations for the Council;
- Ron Cavallaro, General Counsel;
- Lisa Shevlin, Executive Assistant.

The Council reconvened in open session at 7:18 p.m.

On a motion duly made by Mr. Rafanelli and seconded by Mr. Bernstein, it was:

VOTED: THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education seal the minutes of the executive session held on December 16, 2015.

VOTE: 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

YEAS: Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

NAYS: 0
3. **Action Items**
   
a) Approval of the employment contract for the new CCRI President.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve, and authorize its Chair to execute, the employment contract with Dr. Hughes, the new CCRI President, as discussed in Executive Session.

**VOTE:** 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0

3b) Approval of agreement regarding RIC Personnel Action.

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

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education approve, and authorize its Chair to execute, the agreement regarding the RIC personnel action as discussed in Executive Session, and authorize its Chair to execute any additional documents as may be required.

**VOTE:** 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, John J. Smith Jr., and Dr. Jeffery Williams.

**NAYS:** 0
4. **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

a) The next meeting of the Council on Postsecondary Education is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13, 2015 at 5:30 p.m. at the Community College of Rhode Island, 400 East Avenue, Warwick, Rhode Island, in Room 4090.

5. **ADJOURNMENT**

On a motion duly made by Dr. Williams and seconded by Mr. Bernstein, it was:

**VOTED:** THAT The Council on Postsecondary Education adjourn its meeting.

**VOTE:** 9 members voted in the affirmative and 0 members voted in the negative as follows:

**YEAS:** Michael Bernstein, Barbara Cottam, Dennis Duffy, William Foulkes, Senator Thomas Izzo, Judith Ouellette, Kerry Rafanelli, and John J. Smith Jr.

**NAYS:** 0

The meeting adjourned at 7:32 p.m.