



STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS

**RHODE ISLAND ETHICS COMMISSION**

40 Fountain Street  
Providence, RI 02903  
(401) 222-3790 (Voice/TT)  
Fax Number: 222-3382

**NOTICE OF OPEN MEETING**

**AMENDED AGENDA**

**6<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**DATE:** Tuesday, April 28, 2020

**TIME:** 9:00 a.m.

**TO ATTEND:** Pursuant to Governor Gina Raimondo's Executive Order No. 20-05, dated March 16, 2020, this meeting will not be conducted in-person at the Rhode Island Ethics Commission. Rather, it will be conducted remotely in Zoom webinar format in order to minimize any possible transmission of COVID-19. Any member of the public who wishes to attend and view this video meeting may do so by:

- Clicking this link to join the webinar: <https://zoom.us/j/96305337133>  
[zoom.us](https://zoom.us) and using Webinar ID: 963 0533 7133
- Or using iPhone one-tap US:
  - +16465588656,, 963 0533 7133# or
  - +13126266799,, 963 0533 7133#
- Or by Telephone, Dial (for higher quality, dial a number based on your current location) US:
  - +1 646 558 8656 or
  - +1 312 626 6799 or
  - +1 301 715 8592 or
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  - +1 669 900 9128 or
  - +1 253 215 8782
- International numbers available: <https://zoom.us/u/aUBbxu4Aw>  
[\[zoom.us\]](https://zoom.us)
- **Webinar ID: 963 0533 7133**

1. Call to Order
2. Discussion of Remote Meeting Format; Identifying and Troubleshooting any Remote Meeting Issues.
3. Motion to approve minutes of Open Session held on April 7, 2020.

4. Motion to seal minutes of Executive Session held on April 7, 2020.
5. Director's Report: Status report and updates regarding:
  - a.) Discussion of impact of COVID-19 crisis on Ethics Commission operations and staffing;
  - b.) Complaints and investigations pending;
  - c.) Advisory opinions pending;
  - d.) Access to Public Records Act requests since last meeting.
6. Advisory Opinions (petitioners may participate remotely):
  - a.) John Austin Murphy, the Town Moderator for the Town of Jamestown, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Ethics prohibits him from performing his Town Moderator duties at the Town's annual financial meeting, at which time the Jamestown Philomenian Library Board of Trustees is expected to seek bond funding to supplement its Capital Campaign, given that the Petitioner currently simultaneously serves as Honorary Co-Chairman of the Capital Campaign.
  - b.) Richard Peck, the Acting Chief of the Pascoag Fire Department, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether the Code of Ethics prohibits him from signing "pay-on-call" sheets completed by either or both of his sons who are volunteer firefighters for the Pascoag Fire Department, following a response by either or both sons to an emergency call, in situations where the Petitioner is the only senior officer at the scene available to sign such sheets.
  - c.) Gail Hallock Cyr, AIA, a member of the North Kingstown Historic District Commission, who in her private capacity is an architect, requests an advisory opinion regarding whether she qualifies for a hardship exception to the Code of Ethics' prohibition on representing her client before her own board.
7. New Business proposed for future Commission agendas and general comments from the Commission.
8. Motion to Adjourn Open Session and go into Executive Session, to wit:
  - a.) Motion to approve minutes of Executive Session held on April 7, 2020, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
  - b.) In re: Gina M. Raimondo, Complaint No. 2019-11, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2) & (4).
  - c.) Litigation update re: Francis X. Flaherty v. Rhode Island Ethics Commission et al., Superior Court C.A. No. PC-2019-5088, pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 42-46-5(a)(2).
  - d.) Motion to Adjourn Executive Session and End Meeting.
9. Report on actions taken in Executive Session: A written report on actions taken in Executive Session will be prepared immediately following adjournment. This report will be available on the Ethics Commission website. Additionally, you may request that a copy of the report be sent to you by calling the Commission at (401) 222-3790 or emailing [ethics.email@ethics.ri.gov](mailto:ethics.email@ethics.ri.gov).

ANYONE WISHING TO ATTEND THIS MEETING WHO MAY HAVE SPECIAL NEEDS FOR ACCESS OR SERVICES SUCH AS A SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER, PLEASE CONTACT THE COMMISSION BY TELEPHONE AT 222-3790, 48 HOURS IN ADVANCE OF THE

SCHEDULED MEETING. THE COMMISSION ALSO MAY BE CONTACTED THROUGH RHODE ISLAND RELAY, A TELECOMMUNICATIONS RELAY SERVICE, AT 1-800-RI5-5555.

*Posted on April 23, 2020*