

## Central High School Alumni Association Providence

### January 13, 2026 Meeting Minutes

#### Call to Order / Welcome

The meeting was called to order and members were welcomed. Due to technical difficulties the time was not captured

#### Attendees (In Person):

Deb Bush, Gail Davis, Darlene Price, Tom Ausley, Elaine Whited

#### Attendees (Virtual):

Vitalano Figueira, Sharon Morris

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#### Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The minutes from the **December 2025 meeting** were presented for approval. A motion to approve the minutes was made and seconded. The motion carried.

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#### Officer Reports

##### Secretary's Report:

**Elaine Whited, Secretary**, reported that there was **no report** since an Executive Board meeting had not been held.

##### Treasurer's Report:

**Darlene Price, Treasurer**, reported that the Association currently has a **balance of \$13,076.96**, with **no recent account activity**.

Deb Bush asked whether this meant the Alumni Association has approximately **\$13,000 available for use**, and if the funds were available at the President's discretion.

Sharon Morris clarified that the funds are **available in accordance with the approved budget**.

Darlene further explained that in previous years funds were allocated to individual funds, but the current structure allocates funds **according to each committee's approved budget**.

Vitaliano Figueira asked whether the current balance includes **scholarship funds designated for a student's spring semester payment**.

Sharon Morris requested that Darlene provide a **detailed report at the next Alumni meeting outlining funds disbursed to date**.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by **Sharon Morris** and seconded. All attendees voted in favor, with **no opposition noted**.

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## **Committee Reports**

### **Finance Committee**

**Chair:** Darlene Price

**Members:** Deb Cockfield, Reyna Symonds, Sharon Morris

Darlene reported that **Prepare RI** contacted her to ask whether the Association would like to host another student this year. She responded **yes**, and if the request is approved, she will proceed with the process.

Sharon Morris asked what responsibilities or projects the student would work on this year. Discussion followed regarding potential projects.

Elaine Whited referenced a **yearbook containing student photos and addresses**, which could be used as a resource to **build a database of graduates** for alumni outreach and recruitment.

Members discussed developing a **second database** to collect **email addresses and contact information** to improve communication with graduates through **email and social media**.

Darlene also requested that the **Hall of Fame Committee submit its budget**.

Additionally, Darlene plans to schedule a **Finance Committee meeting** to review last year's financial records to ensure all documentation is ready for the **Secretary of State filing**.

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### **Fundraising Committee**

**Chair:** Elaine Whited

**Members:** James, Rob, Elaine, Deb, Sharon

Elaine reported that she attempted to contact **Mike Murray** to schedule a meeting where he could present information on organizing a **Funny 4 Funds fundraiser** and discuss strategies for raising funds. She will continue efforts to schedule him for the **March meeting**.

Elaine also reported receiving an email offering a **reduced participation fee of \$4.01** to participate in the **401 Gives United Way fundraiser**. She paid the fee on behalf of the Association.

The fundraiser will take place **April 1–2**.

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## Scholarship Committee

**Members:** Elaine Whited, Deb Bush, Paul D., Darlene Price, Kevin

Elaine reported that a **Scholarship Committee meeting** was held earlier in the month, attended by **Paul D. and Deb Bush**.

During the meeting, the committee reviewed the scholarship letters and documentation and agreed to **keep the materials the same as the previous year**.

Once finalized, the letters will be **distributed to alumni via email**.

Due to the rising cost of postage, Elaine visited the **Post Office** to inquire about **reduced mailing options**. She received information indicating that a fee of **\$200–\$300** may apply; however, the service may include **envelope stuffing and mailing preparation**.

Elaine also reported that the committee would like to recognize **Mr. Williamson** for his generosity toward the **scholarship fund and food drive**. The committee discussed presenting him with an **acrylic award**.

Tom Ausley suggested that a **letter of appreciation** and purchase a **framed glass display** to acknowledge his contributions.

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## Hall of Fame Committee

**Chair:** Tom Ausley

**Members:** Gail Davis, Kevin, Deb Bush, Robert, Deb Cockfield, Elaine Whited

### Event Details

- **Venue:** Cranston Country Club (Booked)
- **Date:** Sunday, September 27, 2026
- **Time:** 1:00 PM (Confirmed)

### Updates

- **Nominations:** Approximately **30 nominations received**
- **Ad Booklet:** One advertisement received so far (Rob Nance coordinating)
- **Trophies:** Deb Bush and Gail Davis
- **Raffle Table:** Elaine Whited (to benefit the General Fund)

Tom reported that the **Hall of Fame Committee is making strong progress** and is continuing to gather additional information on the nominees.

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### **Membership Committee**

**Chair:** Open

**Members:** Robert, Elaine

No report at this time.

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### **Grant Committee**

**Chair:** Sharon Morris

Sharon reported **no updates** at this time.

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### **Communications Committee**

**Chair:** Open

No report.

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### **Nominating Committee**

No report.

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### **Old Business**

#### **Alumni T-Shirts**

No updates at this time.

#### **Additional Payment Options**

The following electronic payment options are being explored:

- Electronic Check
- Zeffy (Deb Cockfield to report)
- Venmo
- Zelle
- Cash App
- Other platforms

Deb Cockfield will present findings on **additional payment options at the next meeting.**

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### **New Business**

No new business was introduced.

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### **Open Discussion**

Darlene shared an example of how **St. Martin de Porres School** used their **Prepare RI student** to assist with planning a gala event.

The student helped prepare:

- Sponsorship letters
- Event invitations
- A full packet for purchasing tickets and sponsorship opportunities

Members discussed how a similar approach could benefit the Alumni Association's events.

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### **Upcoming Meeting Dates**

- **March 10, 2026**
  - **May 12, 2026**
  - **July 14, 2026 (Virtual)**
  - **September 8, 2026**
  - **November 10, 2026**
  - **Annual Meeting – December 8, 2026**
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### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned.