

**KDCCW FALL BOARD MEETING**  
**January 6, 2018**  
**Shea Room, Knoxville, TN**

The Knoxville Diocesan Council of Catholic Women met in the Shea Room on January 6, 2018. The meeting was called to order at 9:30 AM by Madam President, Karen Vacaliuc, who led the membership and guests in the Salute to the Cross, Our Lady of Good Counsel prayer, The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and the NCCW Mission Statement.

**Opening Prayer & Reflections:** Sr. Kennedy opened with a prayer and a reflection on how all that we do is really done for the love of the Lord.

Madam President welcomed everyone and, including those visiting.

Roll Call was taken and the following were:

**Present:**

Julie Bomar  
Jan Byers  
Gigi Chasey  
Judy Collins  
Mary Cooper  
Marilyn Hafner  
Nikki Kapolka  
Sr. John Catherine Kennedy  
Kathy Morin  
Diann Nance  
Michelle Peckham  
Joan Rowe  
Pat Ryan  
Amelia Sweeney  
Susan Tribble  
Karen Vacaliuc  
Arlene Webb  
Anne Wharton  
Fr. Dan Whitman

Mary Wilson

**Other:**

Suzanne Erpenbach  
Linda Lambert  
Sally Jackson

**Excused:**

Lynn Christ  
Cathy Hundley  
Karen Meiring  
Aimee Place  
Michelle Ronsse

**Absent:**

Gisela Chaparro  
Debbie Donahoo  
Lacey Metz  
Rosamaria Perez

**Parliamentarian Comment:** Anne Wharton gave no specific report except to ask anyone who spoke or made a motion to please say their name first to assist the secretary in making sure the minutes included the correct names and their motions.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:** Kathy Morin moved to approve the previous minutes and was seconded by Julie Bomar. Minutes were approved as posted.

**Treasurer's Report:** Report was approved as presented.

**KDCCW Province Director's Report:** Diann Nance thanked everyone for their support, both spiritual and financial. She stated she was working more in West Tennessee and all of Kentucky. She spoke on the Vocation Purse Club and also the Respite Program. She explained that the booklet on the first 75 Years of NCCW was available and that the booklet for the first 100 Years of NCCW would be coming out later. Diann reminded everyone of the National Rosary participation on the 13<sup>th</sup> of each month and encouraged all to participate.

**KDCCW President's Report:** Madam President spoke on the 2018 Convention in April and explained all which has already been accomplished. She also advised that this year all religious' registrations would be paid for by an anonymous donor and religious included all Priests, Deacons and Sisters. Karen also asked everyone to

bring at least one new person to this year's Convention. Also, she advised that so far there were no ads received for the Program, even though it is early. Michelle Peckham then presented her with a check for the first ad for the 2018 Program. Everyone received a copy of her Winter 2018 Report.

#### Deanery President Reports:

**Chattanooga:** Julie Bomar explained that their Convention Report would be presented in detail by Arlene Webb. She invited all members to attend the Diocese of Knoxville Women's Retreat to be held on February 24<sup>th</sup> at All Saints Church in Knoxville. She advised that a general e-mail pertaining to the Retreat is being sent out to the Deanery. She encouraged everyone to attend because the Retreat relates to the theme of the 2018 Convention.

**Cumberland Mountain:** Nikki Kapolka told of their Fall meeting at St. Thomas in Lenoir City where they selected St. Mary's Legacy Clinic as their Deanery Project for the next two years. She also encouraged everyone to attend the February 24<sup>th</sup> Retreat where Sr. Anna Marie will be the speaker. Their spirituality theme this year is "Women in Scripture".

**5 Rivers:** As President, Michelle Ronsse was excused, Judy Collins read from her report. She explained that Bernadette distributed sheets on how to make the plastic sleeping mats for the homeless. Judy explained that these were made from the plastic grocery bags and all the information on this process can be found on line. Their Deanery Service Project is to support The Handmaids of the Precious Blood and they hoped to have a group from their deanery to visit the convent. Their next meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2018.

**Smokey Mountain:** Mary Wilson shared that their General Meeting was held on October 17, 2017. Fr. Orr presented a talk on "Rest & Refreshment in the Lord for the weary and burdened". They provided both breakfast and lunch prepared by St. Joseph the Worker. Fr. Brando concelebrated the Mass and Fr. Brando spoke on Spiritual & Corporal Works of Mercy. She told of the various planned events by each of their affiliates during November & December, 2017.

Due to a prior commitment, Kathy Morin gave her report as Historian. She asked each Deanery to supply her or Rosamaria Perez with information concerning their activities. They would appreciate data and also pictures. Kathy inquired about physical storage space for the books she now has on the history of KDCCW and was advised that the Chancery does have space. She also advised that she had been contacted by NCCW to consider being nominated for the position of Treasurer for the NCCW. She asked for prayers to help her discern this opportunity.

Commission Reports: There are now only 3 Commissioners as Lisa Morris, Legislative Commissioner, had to step down due to health reasons; however, Madam President has been seeking someone to replace Lisa but has not had any positive response. It is not required to presently have the four but she will continue to ask and will try to have a Legislative Commissioner for next year.

**Leadership:** Cathy Hundley is absent due to the flu.

**Service:** Jan Byers explained that the service project for this year's convention is "Mary's Meals". This is a global charity whose mission is to provide a nutritious daily meal to impoverished children within their educational facility. She provided a complete history as to how two brothers started this and how it has grown to be a global charity. It is now in fourteen countries, including the USA.

**Spirituality:** Sr. John Catherine Kennedy refreshed our memories that she was providing three reflections over the course of this year; namely, the first was the Eucharistic devotion which she shared during our Fall meeting. Second is the Holy Rosary; third is praying for peace. She also shared that she would appreciate assistance in presenting and setting up her Spirituality Booth at the Convention as this will be her first time attending a KDCCW Convention. She was assured she would have assistance regarding her participating in the convention.

#### Committee Reports:

**Corresponding Secretary:** Lacey Metz: Being a young mother she cannot always be present at the meetings but she is doing an outstanding job in sending out all of the necessary correspondences and cards for any occasion which may arise. Madam President requested when sending her information for card to be mailed to include all of the pertinent information, including their name, address and reason for the correspondence needed.

**Directory:** Mary Cooper shared that the new, up-to-date KDCCW Directory was complete and if you could not open the e-mail, to let her know and she would try to arrange another format for you. If you did not receive the newest edition to let her know so she can re-send it to you.

**E-Secretary:** Aimee Place was absent due to an illness; however Madam Secretary complimented Aimee on her quickness in sending out all e-mails.

**Membership:** Lynn Christ was absent but Madam President explained that she and Lynn had been working on the goal of increasing membership to the NCCW across our diocese. She asked that all of us aim to get at least one new NCCW member. We were also reminded that the NCCW has revised their policy regarding the release of member's records and information. It is now only given to the Province Directors, who may then pass any needed information onto a CCW member, but only on a "need to know" basis. Membership dues are still \$50 annually and NCCW will send out renewal reminders, either electronically or USPS. Also, Lynn is working to update KDCCW website.

**Parliamentarian:** Anne Wharton said there was not a report.

**Public Relations:** Gisela Chaparro was absent. Madam President explained that an e-mail had been sent out to the deaneries and affiliates to "save the date" regarding the convention. She explained that there would be more going out on the conventions to each affiliate within the next week or so. In February there would be flyers sent to each parish asking that this flyer be incorporated into their bulletin. She also mentioned that Sr. Anna Maria would have an area set up with convention information at the February 24<sup>th</sup> Retreat.

**Training:** Susan Tribble reminded everyone that during our Fall meeting she had asked everyone to begin with a clean notebook and keep files for both yourself and for it to be passed on in the future. She described how she had put her notebook together and what she kept in it. She also mentioned that prayer should be a part of each CCW meeting because it is our faith that makes our meetings special from the others. She suggested that we order seasonal booklets for our CCW's, such as for Advent and Lent. It is important to have your CCW name on several items, such as pencils or pens. Some parishes have t-shirts with their CCW logo on them to create a sense of belonging and also showing others in your community that CCW exists within your parish.

Karen Vacaliuc shared a prayer to our Lady by St. Mother Teresa of Calcutta, sent to her from Jane Carter.

**Web Mistress:** Judy Collins reminded all that all reports and minutes are on the website. She stated that as soon as Karen sent her the finished correspondence she immediately sent them electronically to the KDCCW website.

#### Old Business:

**2018 KDCCW Convention:** Arlene Webb said all is going extremely well toward the 2018 Convention. One change is the hotel is now the Holiday Inn of Chattanooga and the new rate is \$99 per night, plus taxes. She advised that this hotel has a restaurant and, therefore, does not provide a continental breakfast. However, the Convention will provide a breakfast for everyone each day. She went over the handout she provided everyone concerning the time and list of each event. She also reminded everyone to let their pastors and religious know that their registration fee is being paid for. (not their hotel stay). Motion was made by Nikki Kapolka to accept convention fees and Mass offertory collection agencies or organizations as listed on the Convention handout. Motion passed. There was discussion concerning the checking account arrangement with the Chattanooga Deanery of CCW. It was explained that even though the Convention monies were kept in the Deanery checking account, the convention funds were kept totally separate from the Deanery's monies.

**Special Mass for all KDCCW Members at the new Cathedral:** Our Mass is schedule for April 26, 2018, at 6 PM, which is the Feast of Our Lady of Good Counsel. Many thanks to Bishop Stika for arranging this.

Madam President explained there will be a special edition of the *East Tennessee Catholic*, March issue. This will come out after the dedication of the new Cathedral on March 2, 2018, and will contain colored pictures. We have been asked to place an ad in this issue and Madam President gave the prices for the various size ads available. After some discussion, Susan Tribble moved that KDCCW place a half-page ad in the commemorative issue of the *East Tennessee Catholic*, in the amount of \$500, for the dedication of the new Cathedral. Pat Ryan seconded and the motion passed. The design of the ad will be prepared by herself and Gisela Chaparro, which may include the KDCCW logo, list of the Deaneries and some information regarding the 2018 Convention, even though the early registration date will have expired.

#### New Business:

**Diocesan Women's Retreat at All Saints on February 24, 2018.** Madam President encouraged all to try to attend as Sr. Anna Marie is an excellent speaker. There is an on-line registration with eight people to one table.

Dedication of new Cathedral and Mass for the KDCCW. (see notes above on Special Mass). After much discussion, it was decided that Karen would check on the availability of the Shea Room to see if we would have a reception of some type after the Mass. Some expressed they would prefer to out to dinner with a smaller group after the Mass. Karen will e-mail everyone after she has checked on the usage of the Shea Room.

**Legislative Committee:** No Report as there is not a Commissioner. Judy Collins suggested we try to get a Commissioner to finish out this year and the next for continuity.

**Training and LTD & 2019 Convention:** Susan Tribble, Cathy Hundley and Karen have discussed having the NCCW's LTD Team be a part of the Convention. They have conferred with the Bishop's office and have determined that May 9-11, would be the date. There was much discussion regarding this date because that is Mother's Day weekend. The Board asked Karen to check to see if May 2-4<sup>th</sup> would be available. There was concern that having the convention in May caused undue stress and complications for several parishes due to First Communions and Confirmations. It was decided for Karen to check to see if April 4-6 was available and acceptable to the Bishop. She will get back to the Board on the dates of the 2019 Convention. Then there was discussion of having just a two day convention. It was suggested that we discuss this further to see if this would be feasible as some organizations only have a one day convention. Several ladies agreed that more is not always better and they feel they are rushed every minute of the convention and do not have the time to actually visit with others in attendance. Madam President asked for discussion in having the LTD Team as part of the convention. Arlene Webb expressed her conception of CCW is that of a general membership and not everyone would be interested in Leadership Training. They are more in tuned for the spirituality of CCW and conventions. Sr. Kennedy agreed to that concept with some of her own explanations. Madam President asked Susan Erpenbach to comment on these discussions as she has been a part of LTD since its inception in 2007.

Suzanne stated that LTD has changed to not just include training, but all facets of CCW, including spirituality. She explained that the team adjusts its presentations to the needs after their assessment. Arlene Webb also stated she was surprised that at the National Convention there were not breakout sessions—everyone went to each activity. The idea was discussed that the convention should have breakout sessions and attendees would have the opportunity to attend any session which they felt was of interest to them, such as sessions for mothers, young people and LTD training. Suzanne told this organization is so unique—something for everyone—young, older, grandparents, etc. It was decided that we should continue to “think outside the box” for our meetings and conventions. Karen will start a conversation with LTD team and also check on the dates of the 2019 Convention.

**Other:** NCCW Convention will be in Pittsburgh this year. Suzanne Erpenbach explained that the ladies are working very hard on this convention. It is on Labor Day weekend which may diminish the number of the ladies attending. After NCCW's website is back on, there will be registration forms and more information on the convention.

**Special Announcements:** There are colorful brochures for signing up for NCCW membership available.

**Spiritual Advisor Comments:** Thanked everyone for their hard work and especially for their willingness to welcome changes instead of keeping everything status quo because that is just the way it has always been done. He commented on the impact that technology has had on the family and suggested no electronics during mealtime. He commented on family bonding and letting the peace of Christ control our hearts—to be positive and complement each other and spend quality time with one another.

**Closing Prayer:** Fr. Dan asked Sr. Kennedy to say the closing prayer. After the prayer, Fr. Dan gave the final blessing.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Gigi Chasey  
Recording Secretary