

Minutes  
November 8<sup>th</sup>, 2025 Meeting  
Salt Lake City Diocesan Council of Catholic Women  
Location: Blessed Sacrament - Sandy, Utah

President Annette Pressley called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.

In attendance for the meeting were: Emmerette Atzel, Anne Boyer, Annette Pressley, Barb Kerouac, Bonnie Siegrist, Carol Harley, Cathie Finger, Cheryl Johnson, Chris Manry, Cleo Mota, Cynthia Acosta, Deanna Kellar, Elisebeth Price, Erin O'Shea, Fr. Ariel, Gabby Gauchay, Gaylynn Huffman, Gracemarie Belvedere, Jamie Beert, Jeanne Audiss, Jennifer Streker, Joan Simard, Julie Carlin, Katherine Martin, Linda Mitchell, Marcie Downs, Margaret Sanchez, Maria Devereux, Marsha Murphy, Michael O'Shea, Michelle Stratton, Mindi Allen, Pat Musich, Pat Voorhes, Ranae Lupus, Reinette Schultz, Robin Marvive, Rose Stehno, Roslyn Gunderson, Susan Espinoza, Susan Porter, Susan Vaughn, Teri Miller, Tisha Ramos-Yarber, Virginia Wright,

**Opening Prayer:** Gracemarie Belvedere and Erin O'Shea, followed by The Pledge of Allegiance.

**Welcome and Introductions:** President Pressley read the DCCW Mission Statement and thanked our immediate past presidents for joining and host parish Blessed Sacrament and welcomed Fr. Rodelio.

**Quorum:** Establishment of having a quorum was confirmed by Secretary, Tisha Ramos-Yarber.

**Acceptance of the Agenda:** President Annette Pressley asked if there are any corrections or additions to the agenda. No changes were needed, Gracemarie Belvedere motioned and Susan Vaughn seconded. Motion passed and the Proposed Agenda was accepted.

**Reading of September 6<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting:** President Annette Pressley asked for a motion to dispense the reading of the minutes. Carol Harley motioned, Susan Espinoza seconded, and the motion passed. President Pressley asked if there are any changes to the minutes, Tisha Ramos-Yarber stated she missed attendees who did not sign the list and reminded everyone how important it is to sign the attendance list and Jeanne Audiss addressed the editorial corrections needed. President Pressley stated the minutes will be filed as amended.

**Spiritual Advisor's Remarks:** Father Ariel - President Pressley asked Father Ariel for any remarks. Father Ariel reminded everyone we are at the threshold of our liturgical year and will welcome the new one soon, to remember all our achievements that this community has achieved. He thanked those who are part of this community, supporting them, and encouraging the DCCW membership to continue fulfilling our ministry and as we begin our new liturgical year new challenges will come but he believes that fulfilling our ministry will not only challenge us but also bring good tidings. He thanked the Lord for His generosity through us, not only for our communities but the members of our respective parishes. He knows we are preparing ourselves with what lies ahead and to thank the Lord for the gift of faith that He continues to give each one of us and for allowing the spirit to take an active role in the life of the church. To continue to work as one, as a child of God, as women of faith, and members of the diocese and the Council. He thanked us on the behalf of Bishop Oscar Solis and the great job we are doing on behalf of the diocese and offers their support. He announced Fr. Kenneth Ray Parsad as the new Spiritual Advisor for Salt Lake City.

**Wasatch Deanery Spiritual Advisor Remarks:** Deacon Sunday Espinoza expressed what a blessing it is to be with us at our meeting and appreciated the work we do, for who we are, our dedication to God and His beautiful church and those who we serve. He stated how beautiful we were all called and answered the Holy Spirit and just like Mary had Joseph to help her, we have each other and are appreciated. He reminded us this advent season to point our hearts and live Christ-like as much as possible, that with small faithful acts ripples are created that are reaching many people lives from all around our world and as women of DCCW move with our hearts together with our hand held out with the idea of serving those around us. Encourage, lift, serve with joy, give hope and inspire one another in the many ways our creativity calls us to do. In closing he asked to give our thanks to God for all we are called to do and all He is to us.

**NCCW President Remarks:** Amy Kennedy – Excused, report online.

**Province of San Francisco Director:** Jeanne Audiss stated this is not an official report because there has not been an official gathering of national members. She announced Kathryn Parish-Reese has stepped down as San Francisco Province Director and upon her resignation she was asked from President Kennedy to represent the San Francisco Province. Jeanne stated she is honored to serve us until the end of the term in August where another will be installed at the national convention. President Pressley thanked Jeanne for stepping up to lead us again.

### **Reports of Officers:**

**President:** Annette Pressley mentioned her report is online and reminded anyone who has donations for the Carmelites. She sent a tentative calendar and suggested using it for setting up deanery events or meetings. She reiterated that her report is mostly on the events that have taken place and upcoming events and thanked Virginia Wright from St. Francis Xavier for reaching out to get panels in Spanish for the Carlo Acutis displays going from parish to parish. She announced Marie Miller will be the keynote speaker for the convention and stated we have permission to use the 2025 NCCW theme but will use another logo and thanked Gracemarie Belvedere. She reminded everyone this is the time of year to remember those less fortunate and not to hesitate to help.

**1st Vice President:** Susan Porter mentioned her report is online and hoped councils were able to showcase for Council Sunday in October. She stated to not let your women's group be the best kept secret in the parish and asked do the women in your parish understand they are all members of CCW? Do they know your parish CCW is affiliated with a larger organization, the diocese and national? Do they know Amy Kennedy is from Utah? Do you advertise and encourage your women to attend the convention in April? Does your pastor support you? Are regular meetings held where there is opportunity to participate and enter leadership positions like we have at the deanery and diocesan level? She reminded everyone there are 3 ways to support and offset costs for DCCW: Sponsorship, Ways and Means, and advertising in the convention program.

**Secretary:** Tisha Ramos-Yarber reminded everyone if the roster needs updating to contact her. President Pressley added to let Tisha know if your CCW has a new president, or affiliates.

**Treasurer:** Gaylynn Huffman stated the financial report is for August and September and did not have any deposits or checks for October. For November she will be paying our annual giving to NCCW, membership dues and Province dues.

**Second Vice President – Ways and Means:** Cynthia Acosta mentioned her report is online and stated we are still in the need for a quilt donation. She reported she started sending out letters to the donors for silent auction.

**Immediate Past President:** Barb Kerouac deferred to Nominating Committees

**Historian:** Susan Porter, nothing to report.

**Parliamentarian:** Jeanne Audiss stated she will report in the newsletter what she has researched and done.

**Reports of Commission Chairs/Co-Chairs:**

President Pressley reminded commission chairs & standing committees that in the interest of time, please raise pressing points as needed and reports should have been sent to Tisha for filing and Angela for the website.

**Spirituality:** Gracemarie Belvedere reported there is a link developed on the Spirituality Commission report to a website with 15 categories of mini pray retreats in six liturgical seasons. Categories include; Adult, Caregivers, CCW, Deacons, Elderly, Families & Groups, Knights of Columbus, Men in Ministry, Parishioners, Priests, Reconciliation, Seniors, Wives of Deacons, Women in Ministry, and Youth. She thanked Deacon Sunday for partnering with her to create the website.

**Service:** Pat Voorhes mentioned her report is online. She added the diocese gave 341 Boxes of Joy and will now be collecting for the Carmelite Monastery. She stated how thankful they are and they pray for us every day. She pointed out the focus for next year is hunger and how out of control it is and if able to donate now. There are over 300 community food banks in the area. She announced speakers Mary Ellen Dworshak and Sr. Germaine Sarazin will present at April's convention.

**Leadership:** Maria Devereux deferred to New Business.

**Legislative:** Donna Murphy – Excused.

**Reports of Deanery Presidents:**

**Eastern Deanery:** Becky Columbo - Excused, report online.

**Northern Deanery:** Cleo Mota mentioned her report is online and added St. James hosted the Interfaith Service Project and basket sale. They are seeking approval to host a nine-day novena which is a Filipino tradition with a mass. President Pressley reiterated if your deanery or parish are holding events to send information to Angela where she can post flyers etc. on the website.

**Salt Lake Deanery:** Susan Vaughn – report online

**Southwestern Deanery:** Mary Skomal - Excused, report online

**Wasatch Deanery:** Gabby Gauchay – report online

**Reports of Standing Committee Chairs:**

**Finance:** Gaylynn Huffman reported the Finance Committee has received and approved two requests for expenditures in October for our Council Sunday ad in The Intermountain Catholic and for the reception for the Transitional Deaconate Ordination.

**AWARE:** Susan Espinoza thanked everyone for their reports for AWARE.

**Website:** Angela Martinez – Excused.

**MDR:** Bonnie Siegrist mentioned her report is online.

**Nominating Committee:** Barb Kerouac mentioned her report is online and added there are two candidates for Treasurer, possibly three for Secretary, and working on Second, First, then President. She stated there will be voting this year and appreciates our yesses and there are more nominees needed. She informed us the criteria for applying for Affiliate of the Year is online and to start working with your affiliate presidents and submit an application and nominations.

**Golden Rose:** Jeanne Audiss – nothing to report.

**Director of Meetings:** Jamie Beert reported she is waiting for 2026 pricing so they will be able to pick the menu items and get registered. She reminded everyone she will start up convention coordination meetings in December and for everyone to turn in their forms for the convention package, they are required to be in by December 31<sup>st</sup>. She mentioned the only change for convention is that we will not be having dinner for the board meeting.

**By-Laws:** Maria Devereux deferred to Unfinished Business.

## **Unfinished Business:**

**DCCW Promotional Video Update:** President Pressley reminded to send Gabby Gauchay any short videos or pictures. The bishop has given us permission to put on the diocese website.

**Council Sunday Ad:** President Pressley thanked Bonnie Siegrist for submitting our ad to Intermountain Catholic and to Gaylynn Huffman for getting the necessary approval to cover the cost.

**Convention Committee Survey and Update:** Jamie Beert reported she and Marcie attended the Eastern Deanery to discuss convention costs, survey cards, and ideas to make convention run better and to get our attendance numbers back up. She reiterated she has not received much information and would like more involvement and support on ideas from the committee and questioned do we really want to make changes to convention or leave as is. Gracemarie Belvedere asked if the green cards can be resent and filled out as a group and not individually at meetings. President Pressley stated to look at the ideas on the report and add three or four items that seem important for the 2027 convention.

**Bishop's Annual Pastoral Meeting:** President Pressley stated that she, Amy Kennedy, Jeanne Audiss, Fr. Ariel, Susan Porter, Gaylynn Huffman met with Bishop Solis on October 10<sup>th</sup> and reported he will continue his monetary support of \$5000, he asked to explore options for a fundraiser in addition to our convention and was receptive to an event like a lunch or dinner with the Bishop. He asked that in addition to supporting the Carmelites to also support the Daughters of Charity who work in Northern Utah. Reinette Schultz mentioned the Daughters of Charity have a chapter at St. Olaf's who have the Center of Hope in North Salt Lake. Bishop Solis also mentioned at the meeting to work more closely with Fr. Ariel and to strengthen our relationships with our Spiritual Advisors and with Fr. Ariel's help he will draft a letter to the pastors to continue their support for CCW's.

**Adoration Across the Nation** – President Pressley reminded everyone CCW Adoration Across the Nation will be on November 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at St. Joseph's the Worker. She thanked Fr. Silva, Susan and Deacon Sunday Espinoza for their help. She mentioned there is an article written in the Intermountain Catholic October 31<sup>st</sup> paper which mentions we will host the event and to send the information out within your parishes. She will send the flyer to Fr. Ken Vialpando the Vicar for the Clergy to distribute to all priests and unaffiliated parishes.

**Spiritual Advisor Update** – President Pressley stated she will send out the handbook and welcoming letter to the new Salt Lake Deanery Spiritual Advisor.

**Convention Guidelines Final Review** – Maria Devereaux thanked everyone for their input and time reviewing the convention guidelines and welcomed any updates, corrections, and suggestions. She stated some proposed suggestions have been implemented, others may not be after thorough reviews but are subject to ongoing updates and refinements. Administrative changes for format and clarity may be updated as needed and standing updates will be reviewed by the Leadership Commission and considered for the next whole committee review. She encouraged everyone to focus primarily on substantial changes to the guidelines. President Pressley commented we cannot approve the guidelines unless they are reviewed at today’s meeting and instructed everyone to look at their responsibilities to see if any changes are needed for us to vote and approve. Gaylynn Huffman requested a change for Treasurer’s responsibilities, that they do not carry money boxes and should be removed.

President Pressley added instead of commission workshop speakers to change to commissioned speakers.

Jamie Beert requested under President responsibilities to change speaker registration and lodging to keynote speakers, under annual report documents remove where it states to provide the annual report file to post on the DCCW website, this cannot be posted on the website. Remove bullets under DOM responsibilities where it states: “Catering the planning for the no-host social hour before the banquet and Arranging for bars, set ups and bartenders.”

President Pressley requested to remove DOM from signing all contracts and add to Liturgical Liaisons to get the celebrants and attendance for mass, also under “Will submit appropriate requested paperwork,” add extend invitations to celebrate priests, deacons, and spiritual advisors who serve. Under Commission Chairs “verify equipment needed for the commission speakers” and add keynote speakers need to provide DOM and Co-DOM with presentation materials. Under host deanery to “remove Gold Scout troop to present the flag” to during the opening of convention. Add to ensure all requests or reimbursements are accompanied by a reimbursement form that is obtained from the DCCW Treasurer.

Jennifer Streker requested under WOY responsibilities to change the engraving of the medals to something more generic, the medals are too small to have DCCW Woman of the Year engraved on them.

Susan Porter spoke on behalf of Barb Kerouac and requested under Ways and Means to change “Solicit and arrange for 3 vendors” to 2 vendors: Carmelite Nuns and either Magdalene Religious Goods or Immaculate Heart Religious Gifts who have been grandfathered in and change number of auction/opportunity drawing and vendor tables needed to sponsors’ tables needed.

Gaylynn expressed that more help is needed when collecting payments and runners to get the silent auctions and ugly purses.

Maria asked to make a motion to approve the guidelines as amended, Pat Voorhes motioned and Virginia Wright seconded, motion passed. President Pressley reiterated that once Maria has all the changes incorporated, they will be posted on the website.

## **New Business:**

**New Affiliate President process, per NCCW** President Pressley called the NCCW office and they would like the Immediate Past President of an Affiliate to contact them with any new contact information for new presidents in your affiliate and the Immediate Past President can give the new president the logon information for the NCCW Website.

**Reception for Transitional Diaconate Ordination** President Pressley informed everyone of the reception to be held on November 21, 2025 that the DCCW will host at the Madeleine School Fieldhouse.

**DCCW Vocation Promotion:** Susan Porter reported it was discussed at the meeting with Bishop Solis and Father Ariel they have asked for DCCW's help with promotion vocations. The pastors were tasked from the fall clergy convention to concentrate on going to their parishes to get people registered for the workshop being held at St. Ann's November 15<sup>th</sup>. DCCW women were contacted from each deanery and asked to register and encouraged others to join.

**Update on Utah Catholic Conference DCCW interest and sign-up:** President Pressley reported several women are interested and Bonnie Siegrist sent information out to the presidents of the CCW's. President Pressley remarked how surprised she was that so many women don't know what DCCW is about and how important it is to promote it.

**Correspondence:** President Pressley received thank you letters from Lydia Farnell and Chris Manry thanking her for joining their meeting.

## **Announcements:**

- Vocations Promotion Training, November 15, 2025, St. Ann's Catholic Church
  - Adoration Across the Nation, November 20<sup>th</sup>, St. Joseph's the Worker
  - Transitional Diaconate Ordination and Reception, November 21<sup>st</sup>
  - SLC DCCW Convention April 18-19<sup>th</sup>
  - 2026 NCCW Convention, August 26-29<sup>th</sup>, Grand Rapids, MI.
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- **Prayers Needed:** Gracemarie Belvedere, Angela Martinez
  - **Closing Prayer:** Gracemarie Belvedere
  - **Next Meeting:** January 17, 2026, Our Lady of Lourdes, Magna

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:44 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Tisha Ramos-Yarber, Secretary