



## Nashville Catholic Business Women's League

P.O. Box 50994 | Nashville, TN 37205

### Minutes of the Meeting

June 21, 2023

Coco's Italian Market & Restaurant, Nashville, TN

#### Welcome & Call to Order:

At 6:00 p.m., President Claudia Weber welcomed all to the meeting and shared the Mission of NCBWL. She asked each new member and guest to individually stand to introduce herself and advise her parish and business affiliation. The group toasted Sister Mary Peter's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a Dominican sister. After grace, dinner was served.

#### Attendance:

26 members

1 clergy

11 guests (3 paid dues on 21-Jun)

**38** Total Attendees

5 reservations made/did not attend

#### Reflection:

Father John Sims Baker raised special intentions for Patricia Smith's mother, for Sister Mary Peter, and for the Pope. He shared a reflection about Saint Thomas More, patron of politicians, a reluctant martyr who cheerfully went to his death. His feast day is in June. He was a great lawyer of tremendous faith who used his knowledge wisely and would not compromise his faith. Father Baker encouraged the group to watch 'A Man for All Seasons' about Saint Thomas More's life, although it includes some fiction.

#### Program:

##### **Introduction –**

Mary Rolando introduced Melanie Scott, native Nashvillian, and Chief Development Officer for Nurture the Next, our June social action recipient. The name of the organization was changed from Prevent Child Abuse Tennessee to Nurture the Next which more clearly describes the organization's mission and will celebrate 40 years of service in 2024. Several donations of infant/toddler diapers, clothing, supplies, and cash contributions were collected.

##### **Guest Speaker, Melanie Scott, Chief Development Officer for Nurture the Next –**

Many children in TN do not have adequate support systems. Nurture the Next provides evidence-based home visits and works with families for five years. Most parents in this program were not raised in loving supportive families which makes it hard for them to know how to be a good parent. Staff coach parents by helping them to set family goals such as furthering education, securing reliable transportation, etc. Nurture the Next assists families in securing basic needs. Interpreters are also used as needed. Melanie explained the ACE Score/Acronym: Adverse Childhood Experiences. These families may have high ACE scores from prior child abuse, drug abuse, imprisonment, poverty, etc. The organization asks clients, 'what happened to you?' They

then show the parent(s) how the trajectory of their lives and their child's life can be changed. Nurture the Next advocates on Capitol Hill related to family issues. All services are free. Some state funding is received. There are voluntary opportunities for untrained individuals, i.e. office assistance, monthly financial donors, etc. During the pandemic, staff utilized virtual visits but lost fewer than ten percent of clients. Family support staff build relationships with each client walking along with the clients. Families frequently find the organization via their pediatricians, obstetricians, or self-referral and complete on-line forms for participation. There are three offices statewide that serve 300 families at a time. Most clients are at or below the poverty level. Teens and military clients are automatically accepted as they may have negative or no supports.

### **Business Meeting:**

**President** – Claudia called the Business Meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

**Communications** – Patricia Smith noted that new member Megan Prange learned about NCBWL via social media. Patricia encouraged participants to tell all Catholic women about our organization. Attendees raised their right hands and “pledged” to notify their own parish offices about our monthly meetings to increase coverage in Church bulletins.

**Treasurer's Report** – Karoline Mahoney reported:

Beginning Balance on 01May23	<b>\$17,194.52</b>	
Total May Revenue	<b>\$2,067.19</b>	
Net Operating Revenue	<b>\$19,261.71</b>	
Total May Expenses	<b>\$1,303.49</b>	
Net Operating Income	<b>\$17,958.22</b>	
Reserve/Designated Funds	<b>\$2,732.73</b>	(\$2,037.73 in the Father O'Bryan Fund and \$695.00 in the Retired religious fund)
Total Operating Income	<b>\$15,225.49</b>	

**NOTE:** The St. Michael Scholarship Fund is in a separate savings account and is no longer included in the operating checking account.

**Programs** – Mary Rolando reported upcoming programs:

July: Shana Druffner, St. Michael Academy

August: Tasha Kennard, Thistle Farms. Thistle Farm Products will be sold at the meeting.

September: Debbie Rayhab, Catholic Medical Mission Office

**Membership** – Ellen Wade reminded attendees to pay dues (\$55.00/year) on-line or register/mail check.

56 members have paid dues; 21 paid after June, 2022 but are still active totaling 77 + 9 honorary members = 86 active members.

**Hospitality** – Tricia Casa Santa reported that 40 greeting cards have been sent for the 2023/2024 fiscal year. 30 cards have been sent since the 17-May meeting: Birthday – 14; Graduation – 2; Guest Acknowledgement – 7; Religious Anniversary – 2; Sympathy – 2; Thank-you – 2; Thinking of You – 1.

**Special Events** – Claudia noted that the Pearls of Wisdom event will be held on Friday evening October 6<sup>th</sup>, at Richland Country Club. A 'Save the Date' ad will be included in the TN Register in August. Lauren/Courtney have arranged a Kendra Scott shopping experience this summer at the Green Hills store in August. Appetizers and Prosecco will be served. Percentage of sales will be donated to NCBWL

**NCBWL Fundraising Opportunities** - NCBWL has earned **\$69.47** from the Kroger Rewards Program for the period of 02-Mar-23 thru 29-May-23. 19 households are currently participating, which is an increase of 1 new household. Total received since 01-Sep-14: **\$3,086.04**. Other options for donations to NCBWL include PayPal

Giving Fund, Alivio Health, and Vega Designs. **Post-Meeting Note: Kroger Rewards Check was received on Fri, 23-Jun and was mailed to the NCBWL P. O. Box on Mon, 26-Jun.**

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

**Habitat for Humanity Women's Build** – Lisa Link reported that almost \$6,000 was raised via 2 member's companies serving as sponsors, NCBWL sponsorship, and individual donations. Mimi Speciale and Lisa physically participated in the women's build. Lisa presented Mimi with an official volunteer tee-shirt. A Catholic Build will occur on 24-Jun and 25-Jun, 7:00-3:30. There are still volunteer opportunities available with a variety of tasks. Future women's builds will also occur, and members were encouraged to participate.

**Grotto Mass/Dinner at Casa Santa Home** - Tricia Casa Santa reported that the 2022 Pearls of Wisdom live auction items of two grotto mass/dinners at the Casa Santa home occurred in June, 2023. Jennie Guinn: 11 guests with celebrant Father Patrick Fitzsimons occurred on 10-Jun, AND Debbie Lassiter Byrne: 10 guests with celebrant Father Patrick Kibby occurred on 17-Jun. Pictures will be included in the July Newsletter. Chris and Tricia will provide a grotto mass/dinner in the 2023 Pearls of Wisdom auction.

**Ashley Vega/Vega Designs Promo** - Claudia reminded attendees of the donation of \$1.00 for every tumbler sold by Vega Designs when the purchaser mentions NCBWL.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**19-Jul-23 NCBWL Dinner Meeting** - Claudia mentioned that Shana Druffner, the first principal for St. Michael Academy will be the speaker. She moved to TN from TX.

**Quarterly Board Meeting** – Claudia reported that the next Board Meeting will occur on Fri, 04 Aug at Coco's.

**Airport Survey** – Father Gilstrap is seeking support for an Adoration Chapel in the BNA airport and has prepared a single page survey to gauge local support. Claudia brought surveys for consideration.

#### **The "ASK" – any business-related, personal or spiritual requests –**

**Sandra MacSweeney/Alivio Health** - Alivio Health in Hermitage is a Functional Medicine/Medical Spa that offers botox, facials, etc. Visit [AlivioHealth.org](http://AlivioHealth.org) to book an appointment, and 25% of any service will be donated to NCBWL.

**Diana Miller/Ladies of Charity** - The Ladies of Charity Stuff Galore sale will be held on Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. through 08-Jul.

**Cute and Comfy Shoes and Apparel** – Darcy Bomer and Devri Penrod, mother and daughter co-owners of Cute and Comfy Shoes and Apparel, announced that a two-week sale will occur this summer and will span the tax-free week-end. The shop is in Green Hills behind King Jewelers. She offered to designate a NCBWL shopping day with a portion of sales being donated to NCBWL and asked if the attendees prefer a 'summer sale' or 'new fall collection' option. The majority liked the 'summer sale' attendance option. **Post-Meeting Note: Darcy has offered Sun, 30-Jul from 1-4 p.m. for NCBWL members to shop with 10% of all sales being donated to NCBWL (tax-free week-end).**

**Reflection on St. Catherine** - Jennie Guinn offered a reflection of St. Catherine of Bologna. She prepared a handy flyer of 'The Seven Spiritual Weapons' (Humility, Obedience, Faith-Filled Reading and Reflection, Continuous Prayer, Mortification, Spiritual Joy, and Trust in God), that the attendees could use in their personal reflections. St. Catherine was known for prayer life and devotion to the Blessed Mother. Individuals should use shifts in their daily lives to grow closer to Christ.

**Magnificat Breakfast Meal** - Jennie Guinn met Rose Mary Geiger, today after appearance with her on the Nashville Catholic Radio/Moms in the Middle podcast. Rose Mary brought Magnificat from CA, and she has scheduled a breakfast with Father Donald Calloway at the Pastoral Center on Saturday, 19-Aug. Registration will begin at 8:00 a.m. and the Meal/Program will last 9 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Special musical guest is Donna Lee, three-time Unity Award winner. Tickets are \$43.00. Rose Mary provided a flyer for the event and recommended early on-line registration at <https://magnificat-ministry.net/chapters/tn-nashville/>

**Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m., and attendees recited the Hail Mary.

Respectfully submitted,

Tricia Casa Santa  
6/21/23 recording officer

and

Trish Cronin  
Secretary