



Board Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2025

Attendees: Carole Johnson, John Foppe, Fr. Dan Thiess, Bob Hook (Disaster Co-Chair), Bernie Sammons, R.B Clark III, Ken Patterson, Jeanette Aubuchon, Bill Cornwell, Ellen Harshman, Mike Carosone, Brenda Vanderford, Ruth Klenke, John Stephen, Yolanda Diaz, Claudia Perreault, Judy Belford, Dave Little, Edie Varley, Annette Bligh (Disaster Co-Chair), Julie Komanetsky

Prayer: Fr. Dan Thiess

Welcome: Carole Johnson

Overview: Bob Hook provided an update on the May 16 tornado and the impact to North St. Louis City. He told the Board about visiting Peter and Paul Community Services and the opportunity to lease the 7th floor of the building to provide intermediate housing to low income individuals (age 50 or older) who were displaced by the storm. Guests would have a private bedroom and bathroom with a locked door, three meals a day, and security. Cost per month: \$12,500.

Additional comments:

- John Foppe noted that case management would be necessary and would help ensure all Neighbors had an exit strategy to permanent housing. Noted that he had talked with the CEO at Catholic Charities who had agreed to provide case management.
- R.B. Clark III suggested a contract with those who will be our guests. There is already a draft.
- Annette Bligh expressed gratitude for the support provided to date.

Proposed up to 6 months of lease to house tornado survivors. Cost: \$75,000. Board approved by consensus!

Additional discussion:

- Brenda Vanderford: grateful for the outpouring of support, calling it a blessing.
- Carole Johnson noted Melynie Blackshear's home had significant damage.
- Yolanda Diaz is praying for all impacted and noted suicide in her community due to deportation fears.
- Fr. Dan Thiess recalled his experience helping tornado survivors and reliance on providence.

Closing prayer: Fr. Dan Thiess