

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care Ending Homelessness Committee

Minutes of the January 5, 2011 Meeting

Present at the meeting were: Eileen Brady, Magaly Rios, Bob Mack, Lianne Bower, Katie Merrill, Jerry LeClerc, Dennis Roy, Janet Roy, Nathan Goodwin, Raymond Villeneuve, Kathy Paquette, Lianne Bower, Candace Gebhart, Wendy LeBlanc

9:09 am Call to Order by Chair Eileen Brady

Minutes from December 1st meeting were reviewed W. LeBlanc made a motion to accept the minutes; C. Gebhart seconded it.

Accomplishments to be added to our 10 year plan: nothing new noted.

E. Brady suggested we revitalize the Good Neighbor Agreement. Group discussed how agencies can sign the form but there is no commitment to actually coming to our meetings. The Good Neighbor Agreement was designed for agencies to actually commit into coming to the meetings or to participate in some way. W. LeBlanc stated that when the Town of Hudson refused to sign it, we all got alarmed and didn't know what to do. We reviewed the Good Neighbor Agreement as a group for new members that were not familiar with it.

There was a suggestion that we reach out to the Chamber of Commerce. W. LeBlanc mentioned that The Chamber is aware of the Continuum of Care and that we are in the process of reaching out to them again for an informational session. B. Mack stated that the focus should not be on having agencies sign the Good Neighbor Agreement, we just want to be sure everyone knows what the Continuum is doing.

Community relations will attempt to connect with the new the new legislators to talk about the impact of homelessness in our community.

D. Roy what happens after our 10 year plan ends? B. Mack we need to re-think how we can end homelessness. With the economy and the way things are now, it will be harder to end homelessness by 2012. We can make emergency shelter into more transitional housing. When we work on our plan we can add this.

E. Brady questioned about the HEARTH Act. W. LeBlanc stated that we are waiting for more information, it's not final yet. We expect to get Technical Assistance once it is finalized.

J. Roy question how many people go to permanent housing and end up at a homeless shelter? It all depends on the economy. You can work then get housing then lose employment and end up in the shelter. More subsidies would be very helpful.

E. Brady shared that the Housing Action Committee meeting is next week. Looking for many people to attend. State wide group will look at the plan. Feeling like we are at a standstill because we don't have enough subsidies.

Meeting adjourned 9:45 AM