Committee on Ending Homelessness Minutes of the January 2, 2008 meeting

City Hall, Nashua

<u>Present at the meeting were:</u> Bob Mack, Wendy Furnari, Eileen Brady, Kathryn Paquette, Linda Jeynes, Tony Epaphras, Jerry Leclerc, Katherine Merrill, Jessica Karwatske, Lori Wilshire and Sarah Disano

The meeting began at 8:59 with introductions.

The minutes were reviewed and Lori moved to accept the minutes as written. Tony seconded and the minutes passed unanimously.

Lori asked Bob about updating the email list and he said he had done some but will finish after receiving the updated attendance sheet from Wendy today.

Lori commented that she appreciated Sarah Disano from Great American Downtown coming to the meeting. Sarah remarked that Anne Quinn had invited her and she just wanted to be sure that there was no ill will about them not being able to put up the banner for Project Homeless Connect.

Eileen mentioned that there was an article in today's Globe saying that the merchants in Plymouth, MA are having concerns about homeless persons. Tony said that it is the same in Manchester. Lori mentioned that our Community Relations committee went downtown in November with Officer Joe Brown to distribute info to the Nashua merchants about the GNCOC and resources for if they have a challenge. Sarah said that several merchants had let her know about our visits. More conversation took place about the homeless outreach cards and Kathy mentioned that the police were working well with her. We talked about leaving cards at a few merchants like CVS and Dunkin Donuts. She did say that often when homeless persons are released from the Nashua Police station that they go over to the Conway Arena because it is within walking distance and this is upsetting the staff at the arena. This led to a discussion about transportation issues/concerns and how can we get some bus tickets to have at the police station or other agencies for this population.

The remainder of the meeting was spent doing a final review of the Toolkit. Suggestions were made and Bob said folks could send additional revisions to him. The main discussion focused initially on removing the Southern NH Rescue Mission from the Toolkit as they are not a "legitimate" resource.

The meeting adjourned at 10:10 AM

The next meeting will take place on February 6, 2008 the City Hall auditorium.