Committee on Ending Homelessness Minutes of the June 6, 2007 meeting

City Hall, Nashua

<u>Present at the meeting were:</u> Bob Mack, Wendy Furnari, Lori Wilshire, Jerry Leclerc, Laura Nault, Linda Jeynes, Jean Russell, Tony Epaphras, Peter Kelleher, Germano Martins, Maria Brown, Marian Castanho, Carol Furlong, and Allison Feeney.

Bob Mack called the meeting to order at 9:00 am. Minutes from the May 2, 2007 minutes were reviewed. Lori motioned to accept the minutes, Peter seconded. Bob made corrections, then Peter motioned to accept revised minutes, Lori seconded, motioned carried.

Bob talked about the SuperNOFA that it has been wrapped up and TAC reviewed the application and made suggestions. It was quite complicated regarding the charts and how they relate to each other. Linda asked how momentous the changes were and Lori responded that they were minor changes.

Bob shared a handout from Peter regarding homeless counts and trends. SHP beds have increased and the number of homeless persons has decreased. There was discussion about needing a better inventory for housing units. Bob is waiting to hear back from Angelo at the City. Bob spoke to Chris Pitcher to day after the GNCOC meeting re: housing inventory program/software. Chris referred to another community that has this software.

Lori mentioned that at the SuperNOFA meeting she learned that the Boston Housing Authority has a waitlist preference for chronically homeless and she would bring this suggestion to the Nashua Housing Authority's board meeting.

Linda asked about the Point In Time count and asked if this is where we get the inventory of beds/housing units. The answer was yes but this does not include mainstream housing. Peter said that the City does an inventory. Linda said that most have waitlists and no vacancies- how do we include this information? Jean mentioned that the GAPS analysis being done quarterly is more than most people do and that an annual count is all HUD requires.

Bob brought up Project Homeless Connect and said that he is thinking it might be nice to have one more than once a year and to provide a specific focus. Last year's was primarily focused on health care, maybe future events could be focused on housing, wrap around services, education/employment, etc. Peter asked about outcomes and Linda suggested tracking this better, maybe by survey. Gene mentioned that he definitely sees a long-term residual effect after the event.

Peter brought up the 10-year plan and asked about updating it since we are 5 years into the plan and added that we need to find ways to measure impact. Lori said that she and Bob met and the Ex. Committee will continue to work on updating the plan with achievements and new target dates.

Tony reported that Manchester seems to focus more on homeless families than individuals.

Peter suggested that there is a way through the Internet to track how housing units are inventoried. He said that there is a website of "Affordable Housing on line" and it has Peter's name and he gets several hits each day.

Peter said that perhaps the plan should have a greater emphasis on employment and Bob said that the Alderman asked about employment when the GNCOC did their presentation recently. The Community Relations Committee was able to reference specific practices/programs that focused on employment supports for the population receiving services from various funded housing/shelter programs.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:00am.

The next meeting will take place on August 1, 2007 in Room 208 of City Hall.