

Committee on Homelessness Meeting June 4, 2003

Present at the meeting were: Klaas Nijhuis, Bob Mack, Maria Brown, Donna Juskiewicz, Linda Jeynes, Lisa Christie, Alphonse Haettenschwiller, Laura Nault, Peter Kelleher, Christine Lavallee, Bob Keating, Eileen Brady, and Sister Sharon Walsh.

The meeting began at 9:15 am. Copies of last month's minutes/notes were read and approved.

B. Keating (handout) presented his draft for a homelessness plan for Nashua to be used as a discussion point. P. Kelleher thanked him for getting us started.

As we heard Bob's presentation and as we built on it with our discussion, Klaas recorded our (and some of his own) thoughts on flip charts. The following notes were thus recorded:

Plan Components:

Time Frame

Process

For planning

For executing plan (who sees us through?)

Statistics and History

Available Resources

Identified

To make decisions on wise commitment

Resources to be developed

Tie in with Federal and State policies, strategies

Existing State Plan Proposal (Roy Morrison's)

Cost Analysis – Culhane's research model and track local cases

Talk up our successes to date – pilots

Evaluation – Short-term review of progress – measurable outcome

Who are we pitching to? Needs to be answered

Private Sector – Government, Public Sector – Non-profit, Volunteer, Civil Society

History of Problem

70's closing of MH Hospitals (deinstitutionalization)

Housing Supply – PHA, expiring use

Chart

Population

Housing Supply

Waiting List

Subsidized supply

Income/Rent

New Deal

Local responses in past

Threats on Horizon

Opportunities

Bob Keating:

Keep it simple
Use templates
Therefore shouldn't take long
What is more to be stressed is getting buy-in
Important time to move – opportunity based on momentum
Election
Super NOFA
Federal climate

P. Kelleher:

It's definitely a fluid document
Do Executive summary

B. Keating:

There are enough resources.

Sr. Sharon:

Our community doesn't see the homeless
Get the Aldermen and Mayoral candidates to participate in process

L. Christie:

Keep getting the concept in front of the community

Two Parallel Tracks

Increase Affordable (in the broad sense) Housing
Increase in Permanent Supportive Housing with case management

Practicality of Putting together a plan

Clear accountability
Use the data/thought from CoC and Con Plan processes
Post our thinking for comment to CoC website
Ask B. Keating's commitment on coordinating plan writing
Other volunteers

M. Brown:

Myth: Homeless don't have money
Overwhelmed by Super NOFA and HUD resources (Acronyms, etc.)

Describe our individual expertise

Systems affecting individual homelessness, credit checks for jobs.

A strategic plan to be reviewed annually

UW Venture Grants

NHCF – Lisa discuss with Lew Feldstein

Haymarket

Fleet, Citizens, Fidelity

Church Foundations

School interns (Rivier, So. NH U)

Pursue after CoC application due date– HH with other agencies

Create a Dashboard of indicators on CoC website

Analyze why/where the 1987 housing plan failed?

P. Kelleher suggested December 31, 2003 as a target date for completion of the first draft of this plan with April 30, 2003(2010) the date for a final draft. Each month versions of each part might be put on the website for everyone to read. B. Keating was asked to stay with us until completion of the plan.

P. Kelleher mentioned that he may be able to get grant money (United Way, Veterans, NH Charities) for staff to work on this project i.e. three people for six months who would be directed by this committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 am. The next Meeting will be July 2, 9:00 to 10:30 am.