

**Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2011
www.nashua-coc.org**

Call to order: 8:30a.m. by Chair, Wendy LeBlanc

Present: Barbara Alves, Peter Kelleher, Bob Mack, Beth Todgham, Lisa Christie, Lori Wilshire, Annette Escalante, and Lori Piper.

John Gilbert, Interim Executive Director of Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Nashua, Inc. joined the meeting by phone.

Minutes of February 9, 2011 (handout):

There were two corrections; (1) under the Bridget Award: it should have read "At L. Christie's suggestion, B. Alves..." and (2) under the GNCOC Website: first sentence the word website be replaced with "Community Relations Committee". Following these corrections P. Kelleher motioned to accept the minutes as revised, B. Alves seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Topics of Discussion:

John Gilbert- Neighborhood Housing Services (NHS):

Mr. Gilbert joined the group by phone to explain the status of NHS. His company, Synchrony Advisors, LLC was hired by the Board of Directors of NHS to serve as the interim director and work through an orderly transfer of assets and operations to other like organizations in the community and surrounding area. He provided the committee with a status update on the various real estate projects. He also requested that this committee remain fairly quiet about the on-going developments as much of it is still a work in progress and they do not want to unduly cause concerns to their tenants. He can be reached at jgilbert@nhsn.org. He also indicated the following:

- They are working to accomplish an orderly transfer for residents to other agencies, with the least amount of disruption possible.
- They are working to complete the agency's FYE audit.
- The office building on Temple Street is on the market.
- There is no staff on board, other than Mr. Gilbert.
- Home buyers/mortgage foreclosure consumers in need of resources are currently being referred to Manchester Neighborworks. NHS is the only CHDO in Nashua, and possibly will become a subsidiary of the Manchester organization.

B. Mack inquired about the homeownership seminars and it was confirmed the intent is to hold these sessions in Nashua, not Manchester.

Website:

P. Kelleher and L. Christie have not had a chance to review the history section, but will do so and condense it to a few paragraphs, as well as the ICH section. CRC will weed through the site and make it more succinct.

HEARTH ACT:

There is not enough money federally to fund the changes that were intended to be made, so it is being tabled at this point, and/or it is possible that they may implement smaller segments of the act. B. Mack indicated that the greater concern is that agencies get their funding.

Conference:

Tabled for discussion at a future meeting.

Political Climate/Discussion:

L. Christie indicated there is a public hearing in Concord on 3/10 from 1-3PM. She also indicated that the Nashua Chamber's legislative outreach addressed some of the concerns.

B. Mack reported that the Welfare Association is concerned that welfare departments will be called upon to pick up the slack in terms of the budget cuts being proposed and the impact on consumers. The question of federal funding for family planning and WIC cuts was discussed.

A. Escalante reported that Keystone Hall project is underway.

L. Wilshire reported that the Broad Street Parkway is moving forward with the sections of Pine/Palm Streets getting started in June.

B. Mack asked about NSP3. P. Kelleher indicated that there is about \$5 Million available and that six entities were invited to apply for the funds. The City of Nashua did not apply. HHI may partner with Nashua Pastoral Care for permanent housing, an application is in process.

There was a general discussion about the Stable Cotton Mill Project. The group discussed whether there should be a response regarding the project from the Executive Committee, and it was decided that it was appropriate not to respond.

P. Kelleher indicated that HHI is having a major cut for Medicaid supportive services, but are still working on the details.

W. Leblanc indicated that Medicaid revenues help pay for housing services and are scheduled to be cut; and that Federal cuts could impact the NOFA.

With time running out, discussions were halted and the meeting was adjourned at 9:30am.

Minutes taken by Lori M. Piper, Merrimack County Savings Bank