

**GNCOC Executive Committee Meeting
Minutes
September 17, 2008**

Present: Wendy Furnari, HIV Task Force, Chair
Peter Kelleher, HHI, KH, HIV Task Force, Vice Chair
Candace C. Gebhart, NH Legal Assistance, Vice Chair
Kim Berube, KH, Clerk
Chris Pitcher, Community Service Council
Barbara Alves, Marguerite's Place & MP Housing
Mariellen Durso, Nashua Area Health Center
Lori Wilshire, Nashua Children's Home
Bob Mack, Nashua City Welfare
Bridget Belton Jette, Neighborhood Housing
Lisa Christie, Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter
Greg Schneider, Southern NH Services
Linda Jeynes, Southern NH Services
Theresa Allen, HHI
Kathy Paquette. Southern NH Services

Call to Order:

W. Furnari opened the meeting at 8:06 a.m. and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Topics for Discussion:

• **GNCOC Guidelines:**

W. Furnari apologized to everyone for not following through with the regular GNCOC procedures and she opened the floor for discussion. L. Wilshire asked for the definition of conflict of interest. B. Mack indicated that there was a question around what HUD is moving toward. L. Wilshire questioned where the shift is. L. Christie explained that initially funded agency sometimes have more than one vote and score high. She asked why change something that has worked.

L. Wilshire asked about a meeting that took place with the Mayor regarding the conflict of interest policy. W. Furnari mentioned that the Mayor's question came after the committee voted on 8/20/08. P. Kelleher explained that he had met with the Mayor and discussed previous changes regarding the conflict on interest issue and the option for anyone to recuse themselves from voting. L. Wilshire questioned why she was not allowed to vote. W. Furnari reminded everyone that the current guidelines define conflict of interest as volunteers or staff of funded agencies and that would include Board of Directors.

M. Durso mentioned that the word volunteer came up during the vote on 8/20/08. W. Furnari indicated that she had looked into the guidelines and noticed the wording staff and volunteers. She apologized that the final language was not discussed. P. Kelleher mentioned that HUD has been moving in this direction over the last few years. C. Pitcher indicated that he had contacted HUD and they indicated that they prefer non funded agencies vote. W. Furnari asked C. Gebhart for her opinion on removing the wording from article 4, paragraph 2 regarding conflict of interest. C. Gebhart indicated that she felt that having Section 3 define the conflict is sufficient. B. Jette defined conflict of interest and the State's written non profit policy. The

written document defines that if there is a benefit there is a conflict. W. Furnari mentioned that on 8/20/08 the committee voted to make changes to the guidelines and bring them to the full continuum. L. Wilshire indicated that the time spent on this issue was a waste. She feels that this could have been time spent on the NOFA process. B. Mack motioned to change the language in Article 4, Section A, paragraphs 2 & 3 to exclude staff of agencies and affiliated agencies from voting on SuperNOFA and other funding recommendations. P. Kelleher seconded the motion. L. Wilshire requested a discussion and indicated that there is no issue in paragraph 2. P. Kelleher added that discussing the issues is a healthy process and it shows the ability to sit together even if there is a disagreement. M. Durso added that there is a need to be sensitive that people make mistakes. C. Gebhart asked to make an amendment to Bob's motion, to paragraph 3 so that the wording reads "Conflict of Interest: On SuperNOFA funding and other funding recommendations, staff of agencies (and any affiliated agencies) being reviewed for funding shall be excluded from voting." P. Kelleher seconded the amended motion and the motion carried with the exception of L. Wilshire and L. Christie. The final vote was 8 in favor, 2 opposed and 1 abstention. B. Mack then motioned to amend the language in Article 4, Paragraph 2 and have the Executive Committee review the submitted proposals and rank in priority order. P. Kelleher seconded the motion. L. Wilshire discussed this amendment. B. Mack withdrew his motion and suggested leaving the wording as originally written.

- **United Way:**

W. Furnari mentioned that she had invited Ray Peterson to join the Executive Committee and he declined the invitation. C. Pitcher indicated that the Manchester COC may be used as leverage to reopen the conversation with Ray Peterson. B. Mack mentioned that he is on the Board of the United Way. L. Wilshire suggested that this made him ineligible to vote on SuperNOFA funding. W. Furnari stated that the United Way was not seeking funding through the SuperNOFA so she didn't believe our conflict of interest policy would apply. W. Furnari suggested reaching out the United Way Officers regarding what is happening in Manchester to see if they would like to partner in a similar way. B. Mack suggested formalizing the request and revisit the issue at the October meeting.

- **Ranking:**

B. Mack asked if we needed to redo the ranking process because some were excluded from the ranking even though everyone should be able to vote under the old guidelines. He asked if the committee should vote to approve the final ranking already prepared by the first ranking process, with everyone voting to accept it, that way we wouldn't have to redo the ranking but everyone on the Executive Committee could have a vote towards approving the ranking to send to the full GNCOC. The members did not want to do it this way, they wanted to redo the ranking. P. Kelleher suggested e-mailing the ballots to the committee. W. Furnari requested a motion to send the ballots via e-mail to the Executive Committee as all members were not present at today's meeting, and then do an email vote to bring the ranking to the full GNCOC. P. Kelleher motioned. C. Gebhart seconded the motion. The vote was not unanimous, 1 abstention, 6 yes and 2 Nay's.

- **Slate of Officers:**

The current Officers have agreed to be elected for another term. W. Furnari asked for a motion to bring the current slate of officers to the full GNCOC for re-election. P. Kelleher motioned to

bring the current slate of officers to the full GNCOC for re-election. L. Wilshire seconded the motion and the motion carried.

Adjournment:

The meeting adjourned at 9:05 a.m.

Minutes prepared by Kim Berube, Keystone Hall