

## GREATER NASHUA CONTINUUM OF CARE

Meeting Minutes

Nashua City Hall Auditorium

November 1, 2006

[www.nashua-coc.org](http://www.nashua-coc.org)

1. Call to Order: 8:00 a.m. by Chair Lori Wilshire.
2. All present introduced themselves and visitors were welcomed.  
L. Wilshire thanked K. Nijhuis and W. Furnari for their presentation to Paul Newman at the previous GNCOC meeting.
3. Minutes of October 4, 2006: (handout) L. Christie motioned to accept the minutes, W. Furnari seconded and the motion carried.
4. Report of Executive Committee: L. Wilshire reported that there was a special meeting the Executive Committee to discuss dividing up some of the Chairperson's work between the Chair and the Vice-Chair. No report was available at this time from their regular meeting. (A draft copy of these minutes can be read on the GNCOC website.)
5. Ending Homeless Committee: B. Mack reported that this committee is focusing on the Project Homeless Connect event coming up on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>, but will also continue to review the progress of the Ending Homelessness Plan and reports from the various sub-committee of this group. They will also be looking into the winter over-flow bed situation. David Blacksmith has recently purchased the property at 40 Chestnut Street and is hoping to help out by providing 20 more beds this winter. Mack thanked Harbor Homes, Inc. for the use of their facility and for help making up posters for Project Homeless Connect. They also hope to have a banner made up to hang over Main Street. Post cards will be made up to hand out to the agencies/clients about the event. They hope to reach out to more people this year. 20 agencies have responded so far. More are welcome. Many on-site services have been planned for the homeless in attendance. M. Auer thanked the committee for organizing this event, which she said has, once again, put Nashua in the lead for the rest of the State.
6. GAPS Committee: J. Russell reported that this committee will be meeting again soon to record the results of the fourth quarter census taken on October 25-26<sup>th</sup>.
7. SuperNOFA Committee: M. Auer said there was a conference in Denver and the news from that is that the SuperNOFA for 2007 is expected to be out earlier than last year. She will keep us posted.
8. Community Relations Committee: M. Febonio reported that this committee met on October 18<sup>th</sup> and their focus was on the power-point presentation being developed which is nearly finished. They now have a college student helping them with it. They also sent out letters to other agencies in the community telling them about the GNCOC and inviting them to be a part of it.
9. Legislative Affairs Committee: C. Rosenwald reported that this committee met on October 30<sup>th</sup>. They are currently working on two pieces of legislation having to do with Photo ID Cards for persons without a fixed address and on limiting Usury (very high interest rates; payday loans, for example) to put caps on rates. Also, they are working for a Medicaid waiver for HIV/AIDS patients. Their next meeting is scheduled for Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> at Harbor Homes. S. Mead added that they are also working on discharge communications and trying to keep medical coverage for incarcerated individuals and ID's for them.
10. Continua: MCOC – No report this month. BOSCOG – M. Auer reported that they have adopted taking minutes for their meetings and subcommittees meetings similar to the way Nashua has

done it. At their monthly meetings they also review their NOFA goals. L. Newell will be doing more training on the HMIS reporting, and the APR reports. They will be reaching out to more non-funded agencies because their figures are needed as well. There will be more points on the SuperNOFA if non-funded agencies report on HMIS. ICH – P. Kelleher reported that this group is sending a letter to the Governor’s office about the State Ending Homeless Plan.

11. Rapid Re-housing Committee: K. Nihhuis reported that this committee is still working on a uniform application form to be used at all agencies. They will meet again on November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2:00 pm at Harbor Homes. They would welcome new members.
12. Health Care for the Homeless Grant: P. Kelleher reported that this is a grant his has been continuing to work on for 4 years. Because of the President’s recent Initiative the HRSA funds will be prioritized to the poorer parts of the country, which may make Nashua ineligible to apply. Susan Stearns (handout) has drawn up a proposal for Nashua to establish a healthcare for the homeless program before this takes place. She is asking for a letter of support from the GNCOC. Kelleher added that this grant could provide seed money to get more funds in the community. K. Nihhuis added that the homeless description for this includes more than the GAPS census is counting now. A brief discussion followed about how this could be included in future homeless counts. L. Christie motioned to have a letter of support from the GNCOC be sent, B. Mack seconded and the motion carried.
13. HOPWA Presentation: W. Furnari (handout) announced that the HIV/AIDS Task Force is able to help HIV persons who are facing eviction, utility disconnect or foreclosure as well as look for permanent, affordable housing thanks to two grants they have received.
14. Announcements: L. Skibba announced that GNIHN was selling raffle tickets for heating fuel, gasoline, or cash. L. Jeynes added that they have two important upcoming dates to keep in mind, a children’s program with dinosaur puppets on January 14, 2007 and a Harvest Ball on September 29, 2007. R. Morrisette reminded everyone of the Festival of Trees event at the Nashua Stroll on November 25<sup>th</sup> in support of the HIV/AIDS Task Force. She will send the membership details of this event by e-mail.
15. Upcoming Meetings:
  - Ending Homelessness Committee – January 3, 2006, 9:00 am, City, Rm. 208
  - Rapid Re-housing – November 3, 2006, 2:00 pm, Harbor Homes
  - Executive Committee – November 15, 2006, 8:00 am, Harbor Homes
  - Community Relations – November 21, 2006, 10:00 am, Neighborhood Housing Services
  - Next GNCOC Meeting – December 6, 2006, 8:00 am, City Hall Auditorium
  - Legislative Affairs - November 29, 2006 10:00 am, Harbor Homes
  - GAPS – TBA

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 am.