

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
45 High Street, Nashua, NH
August 14, 2013

The meeting was called to order by Chair, Wendy LeBlanc at 8:35AM.

Present: Wendy LeBlanc, Mariellen Durso, Barbara Alves, Bob Mack, Abigail Alicea, Ana Pancine, Lisa Christie, Maryse Wirbal, and Lori Piper.

June minutes were reviewed. L. Christie motioned to accept the minutes, B. Alves seconded his motion. They were accepted unanimously.

Topics for Discussion:

NOFA Consultant:

W. LeBlanc indicated that the GNCOC now has a NOFA consultant. She is located in North Carolina. A contract was executed between the consultant and Harbor Homes, Inc. for \$6,000 and a small pro-rata share of the bill will be invoiced to the other agencies involved with the NOFA funding.

VISTA:

V. Talazasan interviewed a candidate who has been offered the position. The resume was solid. Hopefully this candidate will accept the position and start working in November.

Election of Officers:

W. LeBlanc explained that the election of officers will take place at the October full board meeting and that terms are for two years. She also shared that V. Talazasan will not be able to take the co-chair position as previously anticipated. It has been recommended that Cate Sementa join Ana Pancine as the co-chair. She is the Supportive Services Veterans Family Coordinator for HHI. Abigail Alicea is still willing to serve as the Vice Chair and Beth Todgham as the Clerk. This is the anticipated slate to be recommended by the executive committee. A vote shall be taken at the executive meeting in September to confirm this slate, prior to the October full board meeting.

Upcoming GNCOC Presentations:

- 1) Emergency Preparedness Presentation by Justin Kates of the City of Nashua EP Department; and
- 2) A. Pancine and M. Wirbal to bring the GNCOC up to date on the process underway for compliance with the HEARTH Act as it relates to the newly required guidelines and the coordinated assessment.
- 3) A. Escalante to bring the GNCOC up to date on the status of the new board formation as required under the new HEARTH Act rules.

Ad hoc Committee: Coordinated Assessment:

L. Christie and M. Wirbal spent time discussing the status of this process and feedback from the state level meetings. They handed out a SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) review for discussion. L. Christie indicated that local control appears to be missing from the statewide system; for example the state model doesn't allow for reaching out to City Welfare; major concern – real bed availability where families/individuals are sent to wherever there is a bed in the state without concern for local control.

M. Wirbal shared that it appears that if an agency is receiving ESG monies, that that agency must participate in both assessments, local and state.

The committee discussed the possibility of going back to the state with the process that our COC has in place and discuss that we do not want to lose local control and collaboration that currently exists; questions that came up during discussion included whether we should go with a statewide model only, should we go with a statewide plan plus a regional coordinator; concern over the 211 viability was raised; pros/cons of a statewide system vs. a state + regional system were discussed; churches have been reaching out to the Ending Homelessness Committee for better coordination of services.

It was determined that L. Christie, M. Wirbal, and B. Mack would bring the message to the state committee that the GNCOC wants to keep local coordination. We talked about a 'no wrong door' approach and streamlining the assessment and diversion tools. More to follow next month.

Discussion of Symposium Planning, Review of draft guidelines and Advocacy issues/Discussion were tabled due to time constraints.

There being no further time, the meeting was adjourned at 10AM.

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