

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes
December 11, 2013

Ana Pancine, Co-Chair called the meeting to order at 8:35AM.

Present at the meeting were:

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| Bob Mack, City Welfare | Cate Sementa, Harbor Homes |
| Jennifer Vadney, Neighborworks | Patricia Masur, Lamprey Health |
| Tom Lopez, Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter | Abigail Alicia, Greater Nashua Mental Health Center |
| Lisa Christie, Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter | Melissa Ballard Sullivan, Marguerite's Place |
| Barbara Alves, Marguerite's Place & MP Housing | Greg Schneider, Southern New Hampshire Services |
| Wendy LeBlanc, HIV Taskforce | Beth Todgham, Southern New Hampshire Services |
| Alex Hamel, Keystone Hall | Lori Piper, Merrimack County Savings Bank |
| Annette Escalante, Keystone hall | Michael Flaherty, Greater Nashua Mental Health Center |
| Ana Pancine, Harbor Homes | Peter Kelleher, Partnership for Successful Living |
| Alyssa Gagne, Harbor Homes | Vanessa Talasazan, Partnership for Successful Living |

Ana introduced Alyssa Gagne, the Americorps VISTA who will be working with the GNCOG for the next year.

Minutes of the October 13, 2013 meeting were reviewed. It was noted that **social meeting** needs to be changed to **social media** in the Annual Point in Time paragraph. Wendy motioned that the minutes be accepted with change; Lisa seconded. Motion passed.

All in attendance received a description of the 2013 point structure and a list of funded programs along with the November minutes and agenda.

NOFA Discussion

The NOFA has been released and is to be completed by February 3, 2014. Exhibit 2s are due on January 3, 2014. A meeting has been scheduled with the new consultant next Tuesday.

Wendy announced that a Webinar on the NOFA would be held.

The Scoring Committee is in place. It will continue to include Mariellen Durso. Bob Mack volunteered to lead the Scoring Committee. It was agreed that the group would meet once to discuss/develop procedures and finalize the scoring sheet and to determine how the group wants the program information to be presented for funding consideration. Committee will receive APR's in advance of their meeting for review.

Meeting date needs to be set between January 3 and January 15. Exhibit 2s will be forwarded to Bob Mack for distribution to the committee. Ana will provide Bob will all necessary information.

Wendy noted that the consultant has a version of a scoring sheet for the committee to consider.

Alyssa is available to offer support as needed.

Wendy noted that the amount available is \$92K less than last year – and that Permanent Housing to serve the literally homeless, especially those with chronic and persistent mental illness and/or a history of chronic homelessness is HUD's priority in this round of funding. There was a discussion on whether it would be worth applying for funding for the supportive programs currently funded through COC/HUD funding. Consensus of the group at that point was that we couldn't get money if we don't apply, and that the supportive programs should be considered during the evaluation process.

There will be no money available for a bonus project this year. The consultant will be asked if it is still necessary to make a public announcement of the funding availability and what format that needs to take. There is the potential for a new program to come forward for consideration. Group decided to post the notice on the GNCOC website and send it out to the GNCOC mailing list as a means of notification. Anyone interested need to send in a letter of intent.

Group questioned how \$92K would be addressed – decision was made to let the scoring committee make that determination as they ranked programs into Tier I and Tier II. Barbara offered the \$2700 in administrative funds to be placed back into the pool of money available; it was determined that it wouldn't make a difference in the final allocation. HUD specifically advised programs against this type of budget cut to achieve the \$92k reduction.

Programs at risk are ones that are low performing and those that offer supportive services. It was determined that stand-alone supportive service programs are not priorities and ways may have to be developed to absorb these services into existing programs.

Wendy noted that basic information is not carried over from one year to the next and that the information about community resources, etc. that are part of Exhibit 2 will need to be re-entered into the NOFA. She will be looking for help to get this information into the grant application.

All programs will be notified of their rankings after the Scoring Committee meets. (On or shortly after January 15).

Alyssa will compare information contained in the APRs to show Money Allocated vs. Money Spent. It was the consensus that programs spend all their money.

A conference call is scheduled with the consultant on December 17 at 9:00am to discuss Exhibit I specifically in how the work the GNCOC is doing to meet HEARTH requirements by the deadline later this year can be best described in the NOFA narrative.

An interim step to this process is to get approval from the GNCOC of the updated guidelines (that reflect HEARTH changes) so questions can be answered based on the new guidelines. A copy of the updated guidelines will be sent out to the general membership so a vote for approval can be taken at the January 8 meeting.

Panhandling

It has been requested that the GNCOC Executive Committee meet with city officials, members of the business community and other interested parties to address the issue of panhandling in Nashua. This meeting would be a follow up to one held earlier and would include a broader representation of organizations that work with the area's homeless population. Goal is to determine ways that groups can work together to address the issue without enacting legislation or increased police involvement. Peter will coordinate the meeting and let members of the Executive Committee know when it is scheduled. All who are able to attend are invited.

Other Announcements

Peter confirmed that Harbor Homes would be open all night on the evening of the Point In Time Count on January 29, 2014. The announcement of the new Ending Homelessness Fund will take place that evening at Harbor Homes.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:50AM.

Minutes prepared by Beth Todgham of Southern New Hampshire Services.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 8, 2014
9:00 AM (Immediately following the GNCOC general meeting)
Nashua City Hall