

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, March 11, 2014
Harbor Homes Inc., 45 High Street

Abigail Alicéa, Vice Chair, called the meeting to order at 8:30am

Present at the meeting were:

Kevin O'Meara, Veterans First
Barbara Alves, Marguerite's Place and MP Housing
Annette Escalante, Keystone Hall
Wendy LeBlanc, HIV/AIDS Task Force
Angela Roberts, Harbor Homes, SSVF

Abigail Alicéa, Greater Nashua Mental Health Center
Bob Mack, Nashua City Welfare
Peter Kelleher, Partnership for Successful Living
Lori Piper, Merrimack County Savings Bank

Minutes of the February 11, 2015 meeting were reviewed. Wendy made a motion to accept the minutes; Barbara seconded. Minutes were approved.

COORDINATED ASSESSMENT

Bob discussed referrals to pipeline. Committee met and talked about extending to 90-day pilot and refining the process of referrals. This is a change from the original 60-day pilot process. Reports apparent success, positive response so far. Questions arose about outreach to Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter for participation in pilot and changes from current HHI phone response to Maple Street shelter. Goal is to get people housed ie. Transitional housing. Need to expand discussion on pipeline services and expectation. Further questions arose regarding the capture of placement information. Is this data being captured? Once referrals and placements accepted is that date being captured? Important data point. Further discussion related to wraparound process expansion, communications with other resources before exiting a client from a program and removing resources for that client. Discussion regarding shelter families and long term stays and possibility of referrals to transitional housing. Annette reports rapid rehousing program can support transferring families from shelter she reports there are four total units available, two will be from shelter and two from Keystone. Must have substance abuse issues to qualify. Ended discussion by stating we need to educate on what coordinate access is. It is not housing placement but resource redirection and exploration. Will extend pilot from 60 to 90 days. Peter reports PIT data reflects increase in homelessness due to domestic violence, evictions, increased rent, increase in prison and jail release population. States central access needs to direct to resources. Further reports Miles will forward PIT data to coordinated access committee.
Bob – will closely review data with committee.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Wendy reports the ranking committee will remain the same, suggests disclosure of conflict and signed conflict of interest statement be retained by committee chair with an annual confirmation of same. Discussion ensued regarding proposed new language which was agreed to as follows:

"If any GNCOC Board Member has a financial interest, either as an individual or as a fiduciary, in any matters which come before the GNCOC Board (such as HUD COC funding ranking and voting), he or she shall disclose such financial interest in advance of any discussion on such matters, and shall not vote on such matters, nor participate in any discussion. Additionally, Board members will be asked to verbally state any conflict annually, at the first Board meeting of each term year."

Further discussion relating to changes in the charter require bringing matter forward to general membership at next business meeting which was agree to be the May 2015 meeting.

Lori made motion to accept new language, Barbara seconded motion. Motion passed.
Will send to general membership for review and vote at next general business meeting.

5-Year HUD CONSOLIDATED PLAN

Abigail began discussion on what priorities should be presented on behalf of the GNCOC. Peter suggested funding for COC infrastructure. Not all board members attending. Bob, Barbara, Abigail and Kevin attending. Further priorities discussed included affordable housing opportunities with deep subsidies, funding for data collection or documentation as homelessness is still a problem. Discussion to offer support for coordinate access already in place. To remove barriers with funding. Peter reports estimated cost of maintaining coordinate access pipeline is about \$2,000 month or \$30,000 a year to fund the pilot, collect data and resources. Bob suggested the United Way 501 hub for nonprofit participation for support. Lori states it provides good data on financial performance and compares which events make money and which don't, assists with allocation of funding and mechanism for invoicing.

Lori suggests agency board members from various agencies to attend COC for educational purposes. General discussion ensued regarding educating community and getting them to attend COC meetings. Bob stated Public Relations Committee was originally formed for that purpose.

LETTER OF SUPPORT - SSVF

Abigail brought forth letter of support requested by Vanessa Talasazan on behalf of the grant. Wendy made a motion to provide the letter, Bob seconded. Motion passed. Letter of support will be signed and sent to Vanessa on behalf of the GNCOC Board for the SSVF Grant.

Peter was nominated to advise the Department of Veteran Affairs in Washington DC. He will travel there approximately once a month to participate on the committee.

BOARD COMPOSITION

Bob suggested that a change in meeting time and date for the current slate of Board members meeting may be in order. Suggested giving a timeline of two weeks to respond.

Wendy suggested sending a survey monkey or doodle poll to current listing of Board members with clear statement that if no response received it will be taken as resignation from the Board.

Several board members proposed to invite Maryse Wirbal from Front Door Agency and Rick Rutter from the Mission to join the Board as their input is invaluable and both manage key agencies in the process.

Lori reports Wednesday mornings are challenging, Barbara and Wendy report Tuesday mornings are challenging. Abigail will send survey monkey for change in board dates and times to current Board member listing.

PRESENTATIONS – JUNE

Group unanimously agreed that Bob will provide a Coordinated Access report update.

UPCOMING MEETING INFORMATION

Confirmed Miles Pendry will present PIT data and Dentist at Harbor Care Wellness Clinic will present on dental resources at next membership meeting scheduled for April.

Motion to adjourn – Bob, seconded by Barbara.

The meeting adjourned at 9:55 am.

Minutes prepared by Abigail Alicéa of Greater Nashua Mental Health Center and Angela Roberts of SSVF.