

Greater Nashua Continuum of Care

Board Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2016

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

Ana Pancine, Chair called the meeting to order at 10:09 A.M.

Introductions were made. In attendance were Ana Pancine, Tom Lopez, Bob Mack, Wendy LeBlanc, Maryse Wirbal, Marcy Doyle, Wendy LeBlanc, Alexandra Hamel, Dawn Reams, Lori Piper, Kevin O'Meara, and Peter Kelleher

Brief discussion took place regarding the Board meeting being on a consistent week, such as the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month as opposed to the Friday following the GNCOC meeting, as it is then sometimes on the third Friday, making it difficult for participants to schedule other meetings around this one. The decision was made to keep things as they are for now.

Minutes from the last Board meeting were reviewed. Bob moved to accept the minutes, Barbara seconded the motion. All were in favor.

Lengthy discussion regarding whether we need to update the Governance Charter to reflect a quorum is needed at Board meetings. Some folks feel that it is important to show members that these meetings are important and their presence is needed and if a quorum is needed for votes, people will be more likely to attend. Others felt that we want the Charter to reflect HUD mandates but to otherwise not inflate the requirements of members as this is different from a volunteer Board of Directors- we are all doing this as part of our job within normal business hours and sometimes have conflicts we can't do anything about. Bob made a motion to keep the Governance Charter as it is, Barbara seconded the motion. Additional discussion took place and then the motion was accepted, with three members opposed.

Peter brought up the idea of having this Board meeting as more of an open meeting where other GNCOC members can attend to observe. He feels it would provide more transparency and could reduce the number of overall meetings. A short discussion took place including who should be on the Board, and Tom indicated that he would ask for a member from the Nashua Housing Authority at their next commission meeting, as he is the aldermanic liaison back-up for that committee. The idea was tabled for a future meeting.

Citizen Bank's Champions in Action grant is going to be happening in February. This grant offers \$35K and the group thought it would be great to apply as a collaborative to support Coordinated Entry and/or the GNCOC website development. Maryse will take the lead and work with Vanessa, the grant writer from HHI and Pam also is willing to work on it and collaborate. Wendy made a motion that the GNCOC write a letter of support when the application is submitted. Lori seconded the motion and all were in favor.

Peter talked about the focus on ending chronic homelessness and veteran homelessness and hoping to see an impact on this year's PIT. He is hoping to get these two populations to zero in the next few months. There is one local shelter still reporting in HMIS that they have 14 CH and Harbor Homes is working with them to get it to zero. He is working on getting housing authorities statewide to have a preference for homeless veterans and there has been some success but not yet in Nashua. He is also working with NHHFA to have some Section 8 vouchers set aside for veterans leaving transitional housing programs. Peter also reported that they had 190 people sign up for the Mainstream Housing waitlist this week and some will get vouchers immediately.

Ana confirmed with the group that we would like Families In Transition to present at the March GNCOC meeting.

Bob reported on the Coordinated entry workshop that took place last week. Meeting was facilitated by the State and we seem to be ahead of the curve on this process. This workshop was a follow up from the October meeting, as a local/regional meeting. They came up with some written goals for CE and recognize they need to evaluate and improve the system. Ana indicated that Manchester COC has reached out to her to see what we are doing regarding a Release of Information for clients. There is a retired attorney who is going to be working on this for us.

Discussion took place regarding the GNCOC website. Peter indicated that Vanessa was trying to get a grant but not having a lot of luck- will be better to include in the Citizen Bank initiative. Ana indicated that she is working with Miles to remove old minutes and data from the website to keep it current. She will keep 1-2 years of info and archive the rest. Lori will ask MESH, a website group that donates services to non-profits, if they might be interested in working on our website.

Peter announced that the Ending Homelessness Fund achieved its' goal again in 2015. This money is used to match HUD finds for PH and helps keep those programs running appropriately.

Peter distributed some data about Coordinated Entry to everyone. Bob was asked a question about the questions asked by the CE worker and that some seem inappropriate. He said that those questions are in regards to diversion.

Maryse shared that their RRH program is doing well and they have 3 more openings.

Dawn was asked about TH for DV clients and she said they have 47 in TH and can now take men as well if they are fleeing.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:32AM.

Minutes taken by Wendy LeBlanc, Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force