

GREATER NASHUA CONTINUUM OF CARE

Meeting Minutes

Nashua City Hall Auditorium

October 4, 2006

www.nashua-coc.org

1. Call to Order: 8:00 a.m. Vice - Chair Wendy Furnari.
2. All present introduced themselves and visitors were welcomed.
3. Minutes of August 2, 2006: (handout) L. Christie motioned to accept the minutes, K. Nijhuis seconded and the motion carried.
Minutes of September 6, 2006: (handout) K. Nijhuis motioned to accept the minutes after a correction had been noted and amended, M. Read seconded and the motion carried.
4. Report of Executive Committee: W. Furnari reported that the Executive Committee is still looking for someone to fill L. Jeynes position of Clerk of the COC since her term of office expires this month as defined in the Guidelines. D. Lozeau motioned to defer the election of officers until the December meeting in order to give the Executive Committee more time to fill this position. B. Mack seconded, and the motion carried.
5. Special Presentation: K. Nijhuis and W. Furnari presented an award to Paul Newman for his many years of service to the community.
Nijhuis said *“Too often awards are about the agenda of the giver, and regrettably less about the worth of the recipient.*
May today’s presentation honor the man, Paul Newman, and his many contributions to this community over the more than thirty years he has been at Urban Programs.
Some new to the Continuum of Care may not have had the chance to develop a full appreciation of the profundity of Paul’s work here in Greater Nashua.
In fact, the success of the Continuum of Care and Paul’s career are deeply intertwined.
It is through his thoughtful, fair-handed, open administration and careful stewardship of the Federal Resources that have come to the City – whether the Community Development Block Grant, Economic development Initiatives, HOME Partnership or Transit monies - and with the concurrence of the Human Affairs Committee of the Board of Aldermen that the fertile ground was laid so that this Continuum of Care could blossom; and perhaps, as a sad note, the success of the Continuum of Care has contributed to Paul’s early retirement.
This fertile ground realized through Paul’s efforts is nothing less than “Civil Society” – a goal of many, but rarely realized.
This Continuum exemplifies all the wonders of civil society: leadership by the volunteer/non-profit sector, with the willing buy-in of the business and government sectors for the purposes of providing fair opportunity for all of a community’s residents. This is the legacy that Paul leaves.”
Join me in applause for Paul Newman, former manager of Urban Programs, now a private citizen who we hope will continue to contribute as he has to the life and welfare of this great community.”

6. Homelessness Providers Conference Update: P. Kelleher reported that the conference took place on September 26th with over 200 people in attendance. There were good discussions around housing issues. An award was presented to Citizens Bank for helping to raise funds for agencies helping the homeless.
7. Affordable Housing Strategies Update: K. Nijhuis reported that he and others attended this conference in Manchester on September 27th at the HUD offices. It was a series of panel discussions for funders, developers, and on issues of development and how financial participation could be developed between the Federal, State, local, and private sources. This was an opportunity for new people to hear from seasoned practitioners. D. Lozeau added that in regards to affordable housing in Nashua, it has the Nashua Workforce Housing group which meets regularly and they have packets of information to share. Anyone interested in a packet should e-mail D. Lozeau.
8. Sub-Committee Updates:
 - Ending Homelessness Committee Update: B. Mack showed everyone a copy of the Ending Homelessness Plan and reminded them that it was on the COC website and to please read it. Most of the committees connected to the GNCOC are working on some aspect of this plan to achieve the objectives and deadlines defined in the plan. This is why more help is needed on these committees to meet our goal of ending homelessness in the Greater Nashua Area.
 - Rapid Re-housing Committee Update: G. Martins said they are developing a universal application form using the HMIS forms.
 - Legislative Affairs Committee Update: Rep. J. Schulze said they are writing the mission statement of the committee. At their last meeting they learned more about the programs of the Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter and also received information about Medicaid waivers for People Living with HIV/AIDS. Rep. D. Smith is working on ID cards for persons without a fixed address.
 - Community Relations Committee Update: S. Hurd reported that this committee met on September 12th and are in the process of sending letters to possible new COC members and signers of the Good Neighbor Agreements offering to come and make presentations to their groups about the COC. They are also putting together slides for a Power Point presentation and need an expert in that software to help. M. Durso offered to contact such a person at one of the local hospitals for them. They will be meeting again on October 18th. Reminder for everyone to check out their organization's information on the COC website and e-mail L. Wilshire of any changes or additions.
 - GAPS Committee Update: L. Jeynes reminded everyone that the quarterly homeless count would be coming up again at the end of this month. She will be sending forms out again to the participating agencies in a couple of weeks.
9. Project Homeless Connect: B. Mack said the planning committee for this event will be meeting again on October 12th at 45 High Street (where the event will be) to decide how to set it up. This group meets every two weeks and is planning a lot of on-site services to be offered this year. Registration forms have been sent out. They are looking for sponsors to pay for the food. They need to keep outcomes in mind when planning for the event. P. Kelleher suggested the Power Point presentation being prepared by the Community Relations Committee be available to use at this event. There was a discussion around inviting businesses to participate. It was agreed that their business had to be providing a direct service to the homeless.

10. Continua Reports: MCOOC – T. Epaphras reported that Manchester will be having the quarterly meeting on October 25th at the HUD office from 12:00-2:00pm. On September 21st their leadership group met. Their Ending Homelessness Plan has been finished and they are waiting for the Mayor to publicly endorse it. BOSCOOC – M. Auer said she has not report at this time. They will be meeting again on October 10th.

11. Upcoming Meetings:

- Ending Homelessness Committee – Oct. 4, 2006, 9:00 am – City Hall Auditorium
- Rapid Re-housing Subcommittee Meeting –TBA
- GAPS Committee-TBA
- Revolving Loan Fund Committee-Oct. 17,2006, 11:00 am – Nashua Pastoral Care
- Exec Committee Meeting – Oct.18, 2006, 8:00 am – HHI Board Room
- Project Homeless Connect – Oct. 12, 2006, HHI, 45 High Street
- Community Relations Committee – Oct. 18, 2006, 10:00 am – Keystone Hall
- Legislative Affairs Committee – October 30, 2006, 10:00, HHI
- Special meeting of the Executive Committee – Oct. 25, 2006, 9:00 am – HHI
- GNCOC Meeting – Nov. 1, 2006, 9:00 am City Hall Auditorium

12. Announcements: M. Auer said there would be a “Gimme Shelter” on October 13-14th in Concord in front of the State House again this year. S. Mead and T. Epaphras have attended this in the past and said it was done to draw attention to the homeless and the need for affordable housing. Participants camp outside overnight using makeshift shelters.

13. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 8:50 am.