

Committee on Ending Homelessness
Minutes of the February 7, 2007 Meeting
City Hall, Nashua

Present at the meeting were: Bob Mack, Wendy Furnari, Gene Murray, Tony Epaphras, Deb Fluet, Lori Wilshire, Jerry Leclerc, Klaas Nijhuis, Laura Nault, Anne Quinn and Karen Milligan.

The meeting was called to order at 9:15 am by Bob Mack. Minutes were reviewed from the January 3, 2007 meeting. A few typographical errors were noted. Lori motioned that the minutes be accepted with a few typographical edits, Gene seconded as amended. Motion passed.

Jerry passed around a prototype of the homeless outreach card (HOC) for review. He said the cost to print 5000 of the plastic cards would be \$150. He is hoping to have St. Joseph's Hospital pay for the cost of the cards. The group worked together to revise the card to have the most important info regarding emergencies, food and shelter included on the card. The decision was made to not include the Helpline number, as that resource may be unavailable beginning in June.

Tony mentioned that Welcome Home in Manchester may be closing.

Laura mentioned that she read in the Lowell Sun that the City of Lowell is planning to adopt a 10-year plan to end homelessness. She suggested Bob Mack be a contact for mentoring.

Bob reported that he and Lori met recently to discuss the 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness and to clarify objectives. Currently there are 16 action items falling into the category of prevention, 23 action items falling into the category of wrap around services and 6 action items regarding rapid re-housing. They discussed the dates on the Plan and the need to update them. Lori said that many steps are attributed to various committees that may not even know they are responsible for the step. We need to educate the subcommittees as to their tasks, ask them to work on them and then report back. There was the idea of adding an "Accomplishments" page to demonstrate movement on the Plan.

Klaas pointed out that the Plan has great value and is used to link the need for resources back to the plan. For example, the Aldermen have endorsed the Plan and therefore should be willing to support measures to implement the steps.

Wendy asked how we can all help so that Bob isn't the only one doing work updating the Plan. Lori stated that the EHC needs to bring it back to the Executive Committee for review and implementation. Klaas is concerned that the Executive Committee will be focused on the SuperNOFA through June and Bob said that we will need to multi-task.

The meeting adjourned at 10:05am.

The next meeting will take place on March 7, 2007 in Room 208 of City Hall immediately following the GNCOC Meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Wendy Furnari