

**Committee on Ending Homelessness**  
**Minutes of the June 7, 2006 Meeting**  
City Hall, Nashua

Present at the meeting were: Bob Mack, Wendy Furnari, Tony Epaphras, Eileen Brady, Gene Murray, Germano Martins, Linda Jeynes, Mary Andosca, Klaas Nijhuis, David Cull, Deb Fluet, and Barbara Corman

The meeting began at 9:00 am.

Minutes were reviewed from the May 3, 2006 meeting. Gene motioned to accept the minutes, Tony seconded. Motion carried.

Bob thanked everyone for their assistance in the Super NOFA process, particularly Klaas, who spent time pulling all of Chart N together after guidance from TAC.

Bob distributed a summary of action items and time frames from the Ending Homelessness Plan and said we need to review how the items tie into HUD's goals from the Super NOFA. The EHC is responsible for the first four items on Chart N whereas the HMIS issue can be delegated to the GAPS committee. Barbara asked about HUD's timeline and Bob answered that they ask for projected outcomes for one year, five years and ten years. Bob stated the next step is to look at HUD's logic model and see how we can fit the items in. He also mentioned that the intern/doctorate student we had lined up is now unable to assist in tracking the plan. Klaas suggested reviewing the HUD logic model at our next meeting as a strategy to refine thinking and see if our steps have the outcomes that HUD is looking for.

Discussed how some steps in the plan have happened but then fallen off, such as meeting with landlords. The need to see if all of the items in the plan actually fit in with HUD's goals was discussed. Tony mentioned HUD's expectation of "planning, process and progress."

David talked about identifying which sub-committees are responsible for plan items. Bob said that people who are to work on the various sub-committees need to be identified and invited to participate. Klaas shared the strategy that he and Germano are using on the rapid re-housing sub-committee. Martha Reed from the Red Cross looked at the plan with "a fresh set of eyes" and that was helpful. Maryse Wirbal from Nashua Pastoral Care is also signed on the committee. The committee met and discussed whether or not the plan makes sense, and what are the needed tools. They are working on a uniform application and how to anticipate causes of homelessness such as loss of employment, disasters, etc.

Bob talked about identifying players for prevention sub-committee, both in the non-profit and private sector. An outside perspective would be beneficial. Eileen suggested Sister Joan from Corpus Christi. Klaas talked about the Inter-faith Network also working with the homeless and maybe we should try to connect with them. There are many volunteers at NSKS and Interfaith Hospitality Network. Eileen will post a notice on the NSKS website for volunteers who may be interested in doing this kind of work (EHC planning and sub-committee work) as opposed to direct client support.

David talked about calling everyone who might be providing wrap-around services to get a listing of resources. He was told that the Info Bank at SNHS has all this information available and he should be able to get it from them rather than gathering it all himself.

David mentioned again his concern about maintaining pieces of the plan, such as the landlord connection. Bob has tried to stay connected but hasn't had much luck. Eileen suggested we ask when the landlords might be most available to meet with us. Klaas suggested handing out the landlord toolkit to all landlords that the individual agencies already have relationships with. Bob will look into getting the City to print copies of the toolkit for distribution. Germano talked again about the need for a one-page info sheet.

The EHC needs to assess the ongoing benefits of working with various groups and how it may assist in plan implementation.

Germano also talked in detail about the importance of letting landlords know about food stamps so that they can direct their tenants to DHHS to help keep their cash available for rent. He also spoke about HB 1331, which will increase requirements for TANF recipients, including volunteering in order to receive assistance. Manchester will be holding a fair on June 15<sup>th</sup> to try to match employers with TANF volunteers.

Germano also suggested a presentation to the landlords telling them about all of the non-profits and what services they offer. This may be something to coordinate following some re-connection with local landlords.

Reviewed the sheet on numbers of tenants suing landlords and landlords suing for eviction. Mike Perez of NH Legal Assistance gathered this information.

Eileen said that the Mayor of Manchester is upset by the numbers of refugees settling in Manchester and that some of them should be coming to Nashua. This is primarily due to the resettlement services established in Manchester.

Folks indicated a sense that the current vacancy rate in Nashua is approximately 15%.

The meeting adjourned at 10:20am.

The next meeting will take place on July 5, 2006 at 9:00 at City Hall rm 208.