

Ending Homeless Committee

Meeting Minutes of March 7, 2012

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Present in meeting were: Eileen Brady, Wendy LeBlanc, Magaly Rios, Jerry LeClerc, Bob Mack, Kathy Paquette, Laurie Skibba, Ray Villeneuve, Lianne Bower, Glenny Liranzo, Phillip McArdle, Michael Rhodes, Ray Peterson, Peter Kelleher, Laura Nault, Mr. Emmons, Germano Martins, Jazmin Miranda-Smith, Mary Ann Somerville, Sandie M Seavitt, Ed Graves, Betty Winberg

Bob Mack called the meeting to order at 9:05 A.M. Introductions made by all. Minutes from our February 1st meeting were reviewed. A typo will be corrected. W. LeBlanc made a motion to accept the minutes J. LeClerc seconded it.

Ending Homelessness Plan - The Executive Committee will be meeting next week with Maureen Ryan from NH Bureau of Housing and Homelessness and others to talk about what commonalities can be found in all the 10 year plans relating to homelessness throughout the State.

W. LeBlanc stated that HUD will be restructuring the COC's process. Six major changes will occur. HUD wants us to submit a new action plan. A question was asked about where the money will come from. HUD wants people to be in Permanent Housing right after coming out of a shelter. We need more housing vouchers, VASH, Section 8, in order to make this happen. The Point in Time count showed that we have 311 homeless people, the same amount as last year, but we do have less unsheltered homeless. K. Paquette stated that in Massachusetts after staying in a homeless shelter for 4 months you will get into Public Housing. Massachusetts has more money than we do. It was stated that elected officials work for us and it's important that we let them know what we need because that is how HUD finds out the issues. One suggestion was made to have a group of homeless people go on a regular basis directly to our elected officials' offices so they can address the problems. Starting March 1st people who have SSI will lose some or all of the TANF benefits because SSI will count as income. Encourage people to still apply for APTD because they may qualify for Medicaid.

Point-In-Time count - Is now available on our COC web site. This year there was no increase in the homeless count.

Tool Kit - has been updated. We took the city's map out. Agencies can still be added if need too, they still have time to do so. The question is how often do we want to update the tool kit?

The wrap around services committee will be meeting at the end of April. This committee will not be going away.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Minutes taken by Magaly Rios, Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force