

**Greater Nashua Continuum of Care
Executive Committee
Meeting Minutes
February 9, 2011
www.nashua-coc.org**

Call to order: 8:40a.m. by Candace Gebhart standing in for Chair, Wendy LeBlanc who was unable to attend.

Present: Barbara Alves, Lynn Censabella, Carol Furlong, Peter Kelleher, Lori Piper, Bob Mack and Beth Todgham.

Minutes of January 19, 2011 (handout):

Following a typographic correction of Candace Gebhart's name in the prior minutes, B. Mack moved to accept the minutes and B. Alves seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

Introduction:

Beth Todgham has replaced M. Bilz from Southern NH Services, Inc. on the GNCOC executive committee. Beth serves as the Nashua Community Coordinator and the Seniors Count Facilitator. She can be reached at 603-889-3440x629 or btodgham@snhs.org. Beth also shared her extensive background with the group.

Topics of Discussion:

GNCOC Meeting Schedule:

A discussion regarding meeting schedules took place. Given that the February general COC meeting was cancelled due to winter weather conditions, the presentations will now take place at the March COC meeting. April – reports; May – presentations; June – reports. The next presentation month will be August as we typically do not convene in July. It was suggested that presentations in the future should be linked to the GNCOC's ten year plan to end homelessness.

L. Piper reported that the Chamber of Commerce would be pleased to have a presentation at their May board meeting about the GNCOC. A discussion took place as to the content of the presentation to this group, and it was determined that the Community Relations Committee will work on a presentation that is geared to the attending audience, which will be many small, medium and large size businesses in Greater Nashua.

Bridget Award:

B. Alves contacted Bridget Belton and at L. Christie's suggestion, invited her to attend the GNCOC March meeting so that she can be honored by the group with an award of appreciation for all of her years of service and success in bringing affordable housing to the greater Nashua community. She has accepted the invitation. A plaque in her honor will be given and several members of the COC will speak to thank Bridget.

A lengthy discussion ensued about Neighborhood Housing Services of Greater Nashua and the impact of Bridget leaving the organization and the impact to the community, and what will be happening in the future. It was agreed that John Gilbert, the acting Executive Director be invited to an upcoming executive meeting to speak directly to this group on the course of action the organization is taking. L. Piper will extend the invitation to him.

GNCOC Website:

B. Mack and C. Gebhart discussed that the Community Relations Committee has been working on updating the GNCOC website. There are components of the site that need further updating, and it was suggested that P. Kelleher and/or L. Christie may be best suited to provide the introduction to the site updating the history section and also the ICH section. Also, once updates have been made the executive committee should review the updates. B. Todgham offered to look at the site and provide a fresh set of eyes and outlook to its content. Could the website be more interactive with the focus on ending homelessness? How can we as a group accomplish this? More discussion to take place at a future meeting.

Conference:

Political climate/discussion:

Both of these topics were tabled for discussion at a future meeting due to time constraints.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 am.

Minutes taken by Lori Piper, Merrimack County Savings Bank