

GREATER NASHUA CONTINUUM OF CARE

Meeting Minutes
Room 208, City Hall
April 6, 2005
www.nashua-coc.org

1. Call to Order: 8:00 a.m. by Chairperson Klaas Nijhuis.
2. All present introduced themselves and visitors were welcomed.
3. Minutes of March 2, 2005: M. Wirbal motioned to accept the March minutes, M. Moriarity seconded and the motion carried.
4. Correspondence/Report of the Executive Committee: (handout) K. Nijhuis called everyone's attention to a copy of a letter he received from Senator Gregg in reply to the GNCOC's letter about HUD funding concerns stating that he will "continue to work to secure as generous a budget as possible for important initiatives within our current fiscal constraints". K. Nijhuis also reported that the Executive Committee has met twice in the last month and is now focusing on preparing the SuperNOFA. Representatives from HUD were at the first meeting to answer questions about project funding and strategies; it was a very informative meeting. L. Christie added that the meeting with HUD representatives was before the release of this year's SuperNOFA, so they could only speak in terms of last year's observations. K. Nijhuis said that the Manchester CoC lost points on their SuperNOFA and we have extended the offer to help them as we can this year. They and BOSCO members may be attending our SuperNOFA team meetings. The committee revisited the Guidelines and discussed whether or not to tape record the minutes of their meetings. They voted to recommend proposing a vote on the Guidelines after the SuperNOFA has been completed.
5. Adoption of Operating Guidelines: D. Lozeau motioned to adopt the latest update of the Guidelines with the exception of Article IV, which refers to voting and governance guidelines. This is the only section that has not been agreed upon by the Executive Committee, and could be voted on at a later date. B. Mack seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. D. Lozeau said the committee has had several meetings on the guidelines and has been unable to agree on the "conflict of interest" portion. She strongly suggested the GNCOC adopt the remaining sections of the Guidelines and come back to Article IV later. B. Belton-Jette said that the guidelines worked fine as written last year by meeting the requirements for the SuperNOFA. She recommended postponing the whole document issue until later. L. Christie concurred stating that there will not be any time for the Executive Committee to work on the Guidelines again until after this year's SuperNOFA is finished. M. Wirbal stated that the original document only allows eight agencies to vote. L. Christie said that actually eight agencies get two votes each, others get one. A practice later modified to allow every agency two votes and individual representatives one vote. She suggested we continue to follow the

same process we have been using since it has worked in the past until there is time to update the Guidelines to everyone's satisfaction. D. Lozeau said that we should resolve the Article IV disagreements as soon as possible since we haven't really been operating under the old guidelines as they are printed anyway. L. Christie said we stated how we were operating in the SuperNOFA and it seems to be working for HUD. K. Hersh said it seems that Guidelines/By-Laws should be consistent with what is being done. M. Auer stated that in the April 12, 2000 GNCOC minutes, three committees were formed, the Strategies Committee, the Housing Needs Committee, and the Legislative Committee. We have been following these committee requirements in the SuperNOFA each year. P. Kelleher said that in past years we have come up with a roster of agencies that can vote. He also suggested there were other parts of the Guidelines that need to be revisited because there is still some disagreement. He said everyone agreed not to apply the new rules suggested by the Executive Committee to this year's SuperNOFA. When they were presented at last month's meeting, there was not enough time to discuss the changes. We need to have the agencies seeking renewal funding from HUD to take part in the voting process. He urged not to accept the Guidelines at this time, but to wait until there is more time for everyone to make input. B. Mack said that a lot of time has been spent on the Guidelines and he concurs with D. Lozeau that, except for Article IV, we should accept the updated Guidelines since most of the other changes are in line with the way we have been operating. We will continue to work on the Guidelines, particularly Article IV, but now we need to move on. D. Cull asked if we adopt only part of the updated Guidelines, would it affect our points on the SuperNOFA? M. Auer said it depends on how it is worded. HUD wants inclusiveness, impartiality and fairness. T. Epaphras stated that the Guidelines should be consistent with the By-Laws. M. Auer related the history of a small group that started the GNCOC. She believes this CoC has worked in good faith and scored very well each year on the SuperNOFA. R. Morrisette commented that since the big difference of opinion is over Article IV, why not wait and pass the whole Guidelines at once. D. Lozeau said that the SuperNOFA team in the past had tasked the Executive Committee to get the Guidelines updated as soon as possible. P. Kelleher said he has not been convinced by anything said to accept anything yet; it doesn't make sense to vote on accepting part of a document. K. Nijhuis called for a vote on the original motion by a show of hands. The motion failed with 19 opposed and 12 in favor.

6. SuperNOFA Report: (handout) M. Auer announced this year's SuperNOFA was due June 10, 2005. She passed out names of the SuperNOFA team and stated that some new people had been added this year. She asked everyone involved to please respond to their questions as soon as possible. The goal is to have it finished by Memorial Day. Chronic Homelessness will be the main focus this year. The Bonus Project this year is entitled "Samaritan Housing Initiative". Funding on this project has been greatly reduced and will only, in the case of GNCOC, amount to about \$25,000 over two years, at which time the project could become a renewal project. There will be a HUD broadcast on April 7, 2005. Anyone interested in viewing this broadcast, please call Harbor Homes

office at 882-3616. K. Nijhuis said there would be a special meeting of the GNCOC at the end of May for the prioritizing vote. M. Auer said the proposals will be put on the GNCOC website ahead of this meeting. K. Nijhuis said a Funding Notice had been published in the newspaper followed with instructions for anyone responding to the Notice and on the GNCOC website. Anyone proposing a project should come to the SuperNOFA team meetings. D. Cull suggested a list of the proposals be posted on the website. R. Morrisette added that a list of the renewal projects would be needed as soon as possible. M. Auer suggested anyone interested in submitting a proposal should look at the HUD web page for SuperNOFA application instructions/format.

7. Current Statistics: (handout) D. Juskiewicz reported that the GAPS committee would be doing a quarterly homeless count starting later this month. It will be a simpler form than the annual count form. The updated count table was passed out showing a total count of 601 homeless people on January 25-26, 2005 of which 275 were sheltered and 336 were unsheltered.
8. New Funding Opportunity: P. Kelleher reported that HUD would be funding 10 projects nationwide to house the hardcore homeless with alcohol addictions. He is working on a statewide application for these funds, combining the three CoCs in the State. A 50/50 leveraging of funds is required on this project. He said if it was obtained, it would be divided between the three CoCs in New Hampshire and could become a renewal project on the SuperNOFA after two years for each COC. The deadline for this application is May 19, 2005. He asked for the GNCOC's endorsement to continue pursuing this funding. If successful it would mean 15-20 units of housing for these homeless people. L. Piper motioned that the GNCOC endorse this project, R. Morrisette seconded, and the motion carried.
9. NHS 2 Shattuck Street NIMBY Opposition: B. Belton-Jette reported that Neighborhood Housing Services had purchased the former Child Care Center at 2 Shattuck Street in Nashua to make into four affordable, "workforce" apartments and a training facility for NHS. There has been strong opposition by some of the neighbors. There will be a meeting of Ward 3 residents on April 11, 2005 at the Mt. Pleasant School about this project. She asked everyone to please encourage people who live in that Ward to come to the meeting.
10. Project/Program Updates/Awareness: K. Nijhuis reminded everyone of the upcoming Public Hearing on April 25, 2005 at 7:00 pm in the Aldermanic Chamber where they will be accepting testimony/input on the next five year's Consolidated Plan for the city and the Public Hearing of the Human Affairs meeting on April 20, 2005 at 7:00 pm in the Aldermanic Chamber to hear comments about FY06 applications for CDBG/HOME funding.
11. Continua Reports: T. Epaphras said there is no report at this time since the groups did not meet in March.

12. Upcoming Meetings:

- a. Executive Committee – April 20th, 8:00 am City Hall, Rm. 208 & April 27th, 8:00 am Harbor Homes Board Room
- b. CDBG/HOME Public Hearing – April 20th, 7:00 pm Aldermanic Chamber, City Hall
- c. Consolidated Plan Hearing – April 25th, 7:00 pm Aldermanic Chamber, City Hall
- d. Ending Homelessness Committee – April 6, 2005, 9:00 am at City Hall Rm 208; Second April meeting to be scheduled
- e. SuperNOFA Committee meeting April 20, 2005, 11:30 am MCSB

13. Announcements: P. Kelleher introduced a new volunteer at Harbor Homes, Vijay Thangavelu. D. Cull introduced a new intern at Soul Purpose, Sara Gardner. L. Christie reminded everyone of the upcoming annual race on April 10th for the benefit of the Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter.

14. Next Meeting: The next meeting will be May 4, 2005 at 8:00 am in Room 208, Nashua City Hall.

15. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:05.