

**GNCOC Executive Committee**  
**Minutes**  
February 15, 2006  
Harbor Homes Inc., 45 High Street

**PRESENT:** Lori Cardin, Nashua Children's Home, Chair  
Ruth Morrissette, Marguerite's Place  
Wendy Furnari, HIV Task Force  
Klaas Nijhuis, Harbor Homes, Inc.  
Linda Jeynes, Urban Programs  
Bob Mack, Nashua City Welfare  
Lisa Christie, Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter  
Donnalee Lozeau, Southern NH Services, Inc.  
Heather Nelson, Keystone Hall  
Maryse Wirbal, Nashua Pastoral Care Center, Inc.  
Alphonse Haettenschwiller, Private Citizen

L. Cardin opened the meeting at 8:05 am and asked everyone to read the minutes (handout) from the January 18<sup>th</sup> meeting. D. Lozeau asked that it be noted in the minutes that she voted against accepting the "conflict of interest" section of the revised guidelines. L. Christie motioned to accept the minutes as amended, R. Morrissette seconded, and the motion carried.

GNCOC Letterhead: L. Cardin asked for any discussion or suggestions about the newly designed letterhead for the GNCOC, which has the City hall as the address at the top and the list of participating agencies down one side.

**Updates:**

Meeting with Police Dept.: L. Cardin reported that she had met with Police Deputy Chief of Uniform Operations, Wayne MacDonald to talk about the police becoming more active/acquainted with the GNCOC to help the field officers have a consistent message about where and what agencies are available in the city for referral purposes. He indicated that they were very interested and he will be the representative to the Ending Homelessness Committee and the general GNCOC meetings.

Legislation: L. Cardin asked about any upcoming bills in the legislature that this committee should be aware of. There was a short discussion about some of the current bills. L. Christie said she would e-mail the information she has received to everyone.

**Unfinished Business:**

Community Relations Committee/Visiting other Communities: L. Cardin introduced the subject of the Community Relations Committee for discussion. B. Mack felt this was an important committee to engage. K. Nijhuis suggested this new committee have one meeting a month on this subject. B. Mack felt it was important that they be part of the whole COC meeting in order to see where this committee would fit in. K. Nijhuis proposed the Executive Committee spend some time at one of their meetings to devise a plan.

Seeking Interns to compile date for COC: K. Nijhuis said he would report back at the next meeting about this subject.

Agency definition: M. Wirbal asked what constitutes an agency, is it the 501(c)(3) category or one governing board? L. Cardin said she spoke to the Secretary of State and was told that the legal definition is the 501(c)(3) category. There ensued a discussion about the different agencies that have more than one 501(c)(3) affiliate under the same governing board. D. Lozeau expressed her concern that although legally an agency is defined by its status as a 501 (c) (3) making it a “separate” agency, she argued that the voting privilege should be determined by the agency’s governance structure. For example an agency that has affiliates with separate 501 (c) (3) designations **and** separate boards and Executive Directors, could be considered “an agency” for the purpose of voting. As far as an agency that has affiliates but operates with a single board and a single Executive Director should have one vote, and represent their affiliates with their vote. She further explained that she believes that this issue as well as the conflict of interest provisions should be able to be explained to the general public and elected officials without it leaving the impression that there are multiple conflicts. L. Christie motioned to keep the rules as they are, W. Furnari seconded and the motioned carried.

HMIS Shares: There was a discussion about how the HMIS prorated bills are paid by the GNCOC members. D. Lozeau explained that she has not been paying Southern NH Services share because they are not supposed to be paid out of Federal funds. After more discussion several other problems with HMIS were expressed including the lack of adequate training. There is a need for more information about who participates and how. D. Lozeau would talk with R. Hatin about some of these issues. K. Nijhuis and T. Epaphras agreed to bring the problems to the HMIS Advisory Committee and report back.

#### **New Business:**

L. Cardin announced that Mary Nelson has been invited to speak at the next GNCOC meeting about the All Hazards Plan as a Public Health presentation.

GAPS Committee is meeting today and will decide at their meeting how/when they will compile the figures from the homeless count taken at the end of January. There was a short discussion about the need for more members of the GNCOC to serve on committees. M. Wirbal suggested a sign-up sheet be passed around at the next general meeting.

L. Cardin said that there is a need for a GNCOC Representative to attend the State Committee on Discharge Planning. She said she would ask M. Durso if she could do this.

#### **Next Month’s Meetings:**

The next Executive Committee meeting will be March **15, 2006, at 8:00 am**, at Harbor Homes Inc., 45 High Street.

The GNCOC will meet March 1, 2006, 8:00 am in the Nashua City Hall Auditorium.

The EHC will meet February 23, 2006, 8:30 am at Harbor Homes Inc., 45 High Street and on March 1, 2006, 9:00 am in Room 208, Nashua City Hall.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 am.