

GNCOC Executive Committee Meeting

Minutes

March 30, 2005

Harbor Homes, 78 Main Street

PRESENT: Klaas Nijhuis, Urban Programs, Chairperson
Ruth Morrissette, Marguerite's Place
Mary Auer, Harbor Homes, Inc.
Miles Pendry, Harbor Homes, Inc.
Linda Jeynes, Urban Programs
Peter Kelleher, Harbor Homes, Inc.
Bob Mack, Nashua Welfare
Donnalee Lozeau, Southern NH Services, Inc.
Alphonse Haettenschwiller, Private Citizen
Maryse Wirbal, Nashua Pastoral Care Center
Lisa Christie, Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter, Inc.
David Cull, Soul Purpose

The Chairperson provided an agenda and called the meeting to order at 8:00 am. Minutes of the March 16, 2005 meeting were handed out. A. Haettenschwiller motioned to accept, P. Kelleher seconded the motion. D. Lozeau asked for a discussion about how the minutes of the last meeting were recorded, stating that not all the questions and answers between the HUD representatives and the committee members had been recorded in the minutes and she felt the minutes were, therefore, incomplete. L. Jeynes said she had offered to tape record the meeting but was directed by the chair not to do so but just to capture the highlights and general description of the meeting. P. Kelleher motioned that the meetings be recorded, D. Lozeau seconded and the motioned failed with 5 votes opposed, 4 votes in favor and 3 undecided. The committee discussed the pros and cons of recording future meetings and it was agreed to only record the sections of meetings that were related to the SuperNOFA process, projects specifics and ranking. K. Nijhuis called for a vote on the original motion to accept the minutes and they were approved. D. Lozeau opposed the motion.

P. Kelleher suggested that the new agenda for this meeting did not comply with Robert Rules, that new business should not be put before old business. K. Nijhuis apologized but stated he was trying to make sure some important subjects could be addressed before the time allotted for this meeting may have expired. He had not provided space on the agenda to discuss the Guidelines as the Executive Committee was finished with them and the only remaining business was to communicate concerns provided by e-mails and have a vote at the general meeting of the GNCOC. This Executive Committee's agenda was designed to focus on matters pertaining to the SuperNOFA.

P. Kelleher asked that the Guidelines discussion be added to today's agenda before discussion of the SuperNOFA. He stated that the bylaws, which preceded the Guidelines, had been established in 1997 based on HUD requirements and that each year a successful consolidated application had been made to HUD based on those bylaws. The newest changes to the Guidelines exclude applicant members from voting on the prioritizing of projects. No other CoC's do this. The new attendance rules also exclude some members from voting. The two-person per agency rule that has been used in the past has been well scored by HUD. He said he is not in favor of the one vote per agency rule, but feels some attendance requirement is necessary to make members want to come regularly.

P. Kelleher made a motion that discussion and voting on the new guidelines be tabled at the next GNCOC meeting until the SuperNOFA for this year has been completed. A lengthy discussion ensued that included discussion about whether we could/should take up the guidelines in Executive Committee. D. Lozeau stated that her understanding was that the guidelines are before the full GNCOC, and that we would only be discussing any e-mails received since the last full meeting. She noted this from the minutes of March 2, 2005. There was discussion about conflict of interest issues, how the GNCOC is about united interests, and that HUD wants us to maintain informed participation with the membership. L. Christie seconded the motion, K. Nijhuis called for a show of hands and the vote was tied 4 to 4 with several abstaining from the vote. D. Lozeau left the meeting at this point (9:15 am) After more discussion, L. Christie motioned that the guidelines discussion be tabled at the GNCOC meeting, P. Kelleher seconded and the motion carried, 5 in favor, 2 opposed and several abstained from voting.

L. Christie motioned the Executive Committee members vote on the upcoming SuperNOFA as they have in past years, i.e. agencies have two votes, individual have one vote. P. Kelleher seconded the motion and the motioned carried. M. Wirbal opposed the motion.

M. Auer reported on this year's superNOFA. This year the time has been cut short by an earlier due date. She has made copies of the application from last year and highlighted the changes. The SuperNOFA team will be meeting today at 11:30 am and again on April 7 to view the NOFA broadcast from 1:00 – 4:00 pm at Harbor Homes. She recommended that the full GNCOC be made aware of the changes from last year for purposes of inclusiveness and encourage them to keep it the forefront of their decision making. Some of the changes include the bonus project: "Samaritan Housing Initiative" for permanent housing of chronically homeless persons. The money for the bonus project has been greatly reduced. She will have assignments of certain sections of the SuperNOFA for people/committees of the team to work on and will pass them out at their next meeting. She has e-mailed the results of last year's scoring to everyone.

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 CoC's in the State. A large 50/50 leveraging of funds is required on this project. He said if it was obtained, it would be divided between the three CoC's 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 this committee's approval to continue pursuing this funding. L. Christie motioned to this affect, B. Mack seconded, and the motion carried.

A. Haettenschwiller suggested the GNCOC take the lead in looking at how we might address the problems if funding from HUD became greatly reduced.

K. Nijhuis reported that the Neighborhood Housing Services project at Shattuck Street has drawn opposition from some of the neighbors. He asked everyone to please support this project. Neighborhood Housing Services is collecting signatures from Nashua residents and targeting people who live in Ward 3 in support of this project. There will be a Ward 3 meeting on April 11, 2005, 7:00 pm, at Mt. Pleasant School to discuss this project with the neighbors. He will also bring this to the attention of the GNCOC at their next meeting.

P. Kelleher motioned that the SuperNOFA team at their meeting set the SuperNOFA schedule, L. Christie seconded and the motion carried.

The next meeting will be at **April 20, 8:00 am** at Room 208, Nashua City Hall. Future meetings are scheduled for **April 27, and May 18 & 25, 2005** Harbor Homes Board Room.

The meeting adjourned at 9:50am

Minutes prepared by Linda Jeynes, Urban Programs.