

Committee on Ending Homelessness
Minutes of the May 10, 2005 Meeting
Harbor Homes, 78 Main Street

Present at the meeting were: Tony Epaphras, Linda Jeynes, Donna Juskiewicz, Peter Kelleher, Bob Mack, Germano Martins, Miles Pendry, Vijay Thangavelu, and Jean Russell.

B. Mack called the meeting to order at 9:10 am. The latest copies of the Super NOFA sections were again passed out to everyone. It was agreed to table the minutes of the May 4th meeting until next month in order to spend this entire meeting on completing the sections of the Super NOFA assigned to the Ending Homelessness Committee.

B. Mack led the discussion as the committee continued their changes/additions to the Super NOFA with M. Pendry recording the changes on the overhead projector and P. Kelleher making notes when necessary on the flip chart.

The committee continued discussing and making edits to the Super NOFA.

During the discussion it was pointed out that the GAPS report shows a 51% decrease in the chronically homeless figure from what was in last year's Super NOFA. An explanation of this was discussed and the result entered under the section instructing to "describe any changes in total number of chronic homeless persons reported in 2004".

The agreed explanation was entered as follows:

- The day of the year chosen for the Point in Time count differs from last year
- HIPAA regulations resulting in a significant decrease in data availability
- Implementation of the 10 Year Plan for Ending Homelessness
- Implementation of a statewide Discharge Plan
- Increase in inventory of permanent housing units
- Significant municipal assistance towards *preventing* homelessness
- Shelter providers increasing capacity during the winter months, practicing a "no-turn away" policy

P. Kelleher also asked J. Russell to research a comparison of chronic homeless figures reported on the actual reporting forms between 2004 and 2005 to see what differences there might be in how the agencies were reporting the annual homeless count figures. She will contact Urban Programs to obtain the records.

There was further discussion about what was meant by "permanent beds for housing the chronically homeless" since this was a new term on the year's Super NOFA. T. Epaphras and D. Juskiewicz are working on the inventory of beds and will get the final figures to B. Mack as soon as they are finished.

The committee continued through their sections after a brief “coffee break” and updated/filled in the “future goals” chart and the “other homelessness” chart. T. Epaphras reminded all that the dates set as goals need to be kept in mind before next year’s Super NOFA begins.

The committee finished their sections with the exception of the inventory figures, which will be submitted later. M. Pendry e-mailed everyone on the committee a copy of what was edited at today’s session.

The next meeting was scheduled for June 1, 2005 at 9:00 am in Room 208 of the Nashua City Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 am