

Committee on Ending Homelessness Meeting November 05, 2003

Present at the meeting were: Klaas Nijhuis, Bob Mack, Linda Jeynes, Laura Nault, Donna Juskiewicz, Dave Darling, Maria Brown, Eileen Brady, Alphonse Haettenschwiller, and Miles Pendry.

K. Nijhuis called the meeting to order at 9:10 am and had everyone introduce him or herself.

Copies of last month's minutes were reviewed. B. Mack motioned to accept the minutes; D. Juskiewicz seconded and the motioned carried.

K. Nijhuis asked for the various sub committees to give their reports and volunteered to start the reports.

Cost Committee: K. Nijhuis reported that one of the reasons for changing the deadline for the plan to be finished was because so much data still needs to be gathered by this committee. They need to define what the resources are and who does what among the various agencies. He suggested we move to bi-weekly meetings with the first extra meeting date of November 19th be added to the Ending Homelessness Committee's schedule; M. Brown motioned to accept this date, E. Brady seconded and the motioned carried.

Strategic Planning Committee: (handout) B. Mack reported that they have been studying the three "goals" and said they also need to identify who does what before they can finish. He will be asking for input from others over the next weeks to be e-mailed to him. This will be on the agenda for the next meeting.

History Committee: (handout) M. Brown & D. Juskiewicz asked for feedback on their handout for the next meeting.

Linkages: E. Brady reported some ideas she learned at the Boston conference such as: Connecting with the private sector i.e., builders, hospitals, businesses; meet with the Prison Warden about discharge planning; "Teen Challenge" bringing in the youth.

Memorandum of Agreement: M. Pendry passed out copies of a sample MOA provided by P. Kelleher (from The New Hampshire Collaborative Initiative To End Chronic Homelessness). The CoC needs to develop its own MOA and have agencies sign onto CoC's mission to end homelessness.

Group Activity: M Pendry led a group activity wherein we looked at the categories of homelessness as reported in the Gaps Analysis and assigned responsibilities for those homeless subpopulations to individual agencies. He invited all present to study the "Wheel of Responsibility" he posted on the wall. He asked everyone to consider his or her own agency's role, other agencies referred to and the possible solutions as they apply

to individuals, families, and involve volunteers, businesses, and government resources. Those present need to talk with the absent agencies to get their feedback as well. (A summary of results of this activity is attached as prepared by M. Pendry.)

Much discussion surrounded the exercise: The definition of Homelessness (HUD's definition being different from ours); two types of homeless: people with social issues and people with economic issues; dealing with families; why are there chronically homeless people; what does primary responsibility mean; reasons for homelessness: job loss, divorce, domestic violence, family disassociation; effect on businesses; tax impact, cost of lost business; community image; government's ultimate responsibility for its citizen's health and well being.

The meeting adjourned at 10:35 am. The next Meeting will be November 19, 2003 at 8:00 am in Room 208, Nashua City Hall.

Minutes prepared by Linda Jeynes/Urban Programs