

**Ending Homelessness Committee**  
**Minutes of the September 29, 2005 Meeting**  
Harbor Homes Conference Room, 78 Main Street

Present at the meeting were: Klaas Nijhuis, Bob Mack, Peter Kelleher, Bob Keating, and Wendy Furnari. Donna Juskiewicz and Eileen Brady arrived part way through the meeting.

B. Mack called the meeting to order at 8:30 am. Minutes from last meeting were not available so reviewing and acceptance will take place at the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Project Homeless Connect: The committee discussed options for this project, scheduled for December 8, 2005. After discussion of different scenarios for the day, it was decided that it will be a combination resource fair and information opportunity for homeless persons and that agencies can network like at NIAC, but to have actual intake and referral for homeless persons that attend and need services. P. Kelleher suggested a large block ad in the Telegraph, announcing the day and inviting any/all interested community members to participate and volunteer, as well as emphasizing the invitation to both sheltered and unsheltered homeless. B. Mack and P. Kelleher agreed to partner to make an offer that any unsheltered homeless person that attends the event and wants shelter will receive it. K. Nijhuis voiced a concern that if all 800 unsheltered persons in Nashua attend the event it will be unmanageable. P. Kelleher offered his expectation that perhaps 20 will actually seek this service. P. Kelleher also suggested giving out prepaid cell phones with limited minutes, so that homeless folks have a method of contact with the providers. Location options were discussed. P. Kelleher offered HHI's new space at 45 High Street, and B. Mack said it could be at the City Hall auditorium. B. Keating suggested the greater visibility of City Hall could send a stronger message. Final location TBD.

Harbor Homes Inc will offer staff to contact providers for participation and an ad hoc committee will be formed potentially including HHI, Nashua Soup Kitchen and Shelter, Greater Interfaith Hospitality Network and City Welfare. B. Mack will contact NSKS and K. Nijhuis or Linda Jeynes will contact GNIHN.

Homeless Providers Conference: The conference was held yesterday and P. Kelleher reported that of the approx. 150 people in attendance, 30% were from Nashua. He also shared that GNCOC is way ahead of the curve and he was pleased to share our successes with the attendees. Since it is the one-year anniversary of our 10-year plan to end homelessness, it was significant to note that there have been 29 meetings of the GNCOC and EHC and many items in our plan are moving forward. The State ICH is working on their draft plan and P. Kelleher shared the following timetable: October- get feedback from providers, November- public hearing, December- release the draft of the State plan. It was also noted that the Governor will support the ICH. P. Kelleher also shared that there were a number of great ideas shared, including the need for a rural safe haven.

Landlord/tenant toolkit: The tenant toolkit has been given to some landlords and property managers. Members of the State ICH want a copy. B. Mack said he let everyone know at

the recent Landlord Association meeting that he attended. B. Mack and P. Kelleher will work on a draft outline of the landlord toolkit to bring to the meeting. P. Kelleher suggested tabs such as “If your tenant has substance use issues” or “If your tenant can’t pay the rent” containing program and contact information.

Landlord/NHA attendance at EHC: GJ Hicks- Grogan will attend the next EHC meeting to talk to landlords. It had been indicated at the last EHC meeting attended by landlords that a NHA representative would be contacted to attend and address questions/concerns regarding the Section 8 program.

Revolving Loan fund: B. Mack reported that the committee has been meeting and has contacted a few local banks to partner with and get seed money.

Good Neighbor Agreements: B. Mack reminded the group to stay focused on the agreements and again, this is a way to engage community partners.

Affordable Housing Trust Fund: B. Keating and K. Nijhuis reviewed the idea of this project and shared a diagram explaining the cost outputs and cost savings. They are working together to put the information into the HUD logic model. The general idea is to raise capital to purchase housing units for homeless families and individuals, which will in turn reduce the amount of money being spent currently to manage/shelter them. Six million dollars is the target amount for the initial campaign. There was much discussion regarding the carrying out of the plan which group members acknowledged is premature. B. Keating will draft a letter to the United Way for buy-in. B. Mack suggested that a presentation be made to the Executive Committee of the GNCOC to see where the interest is and to then present it to the full GNCOC.

Ending Homelessness Plan: B. Mack addressed the fact that the Ending Homelessness plan has many components and we definitely need to bring in more partners to carry out the tasks. P. Kelleher asked about the Division of Voc. Rehab and wondered why they are not participating, as a significant component to ending homelessness is getting folks who are able to return to work.

The next meeting is scheduled for 9:00 am on October 5, 2005 in Room 208 at Nashua City Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 am.

Minutes prepared by Wendy Furnari/Southern NH HIV/AIDS Task Force