

Minutes of Homeless Steering Committee Meeting 4-25-19

1. Public Comment

- None

2. PIT Count Results

- The January 2019 final PIT count numbers were shared with the group. The number of homeless persons has increased from 149 in 2017 to 214 in 2019. This represents an increase of 65 additional homeless people or a 40% increase.

3. Sherriff's Office

Undersheriff Redman spoke to the group about what the Sheriff's Office does and doesn't do with respect to the homeless and what kind of data they track.

- When booked an address is asked for and a common response is to say they are transient
- They are asked what city they are from
- In 2017 and 2018 168 and 145 arrests occurred respectively involving transient persons

Bookings Under Transient		
Place	2017	2018
Ione	8	8
Jackson	80	71
Pine Grove	2	2
Pioneer	6	4
Plymouth	2	2
Plymouth City	3	0
River Pines	2	2
Out of County	65	56
Total	168	145

- Undersheriff Redman stressed that "homelessness is not a crime" and when a homeless person is encountered the Sheriff's office tries to direct them to services
- Types of crimes committed by homeless individuals include: minor vandalism (most common) and assault.
- In general homeless encampments are never broken down by the Sheriff's office unless there is a safety concern or legal issue.
- The County's ordinance against camping is considered unenforceable. So they don't
 - The 9th Circuit court of appeals rules that it is not a crime to camp on public property if the local shelter is full
- If a homeless person is arrested and their personal property is seized then it is kept for safe keeping and a receipt is issued
- Mental health is the biggest issue by far with the homeless population they encounter

- A designated place for the homeless to stay, obtain mental health services and drug rehab should reduce the number of crimes that particular group commits
- Anecdotally the homeless population has increased over the past two years consistent with the increased homeless numbers observed in the 2019 PIT count.

4. Homeless Resources Fair

- Fair is scheduled for May 19th and 20th in Detert Park. The City of Jackson has given their approval.
- Planning is still going on. All organizations present last year want to participate this year again
- Public health dental screenings
- Vision care vouchers
- Live music & a DJ
- Haircuts
- Medical
- Meals
- Face Book page created by Victory Village to advertise the event

Next planning meeting Tuesday April 30th at 3pm in Martell above the Panda House

5. Announcements

- Beth Stanton (Food Bank):
 - Food Link which was planning on discontinuing their produce plan has done an about face and decided to bring it back.
 - Showers at the Food Bank. Preliminary plan was submitted to Jon Hopkins a GSA on May 14th
- Dr. Rita Kerr (Public Health): A homeless person being treated by a hospital must do before discharging that individual: receive a meal, receive transportation back to where they came from, be tested for STDs, etc.

6. Actions

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7. Future Agenda Items

- Contact Chris Mynderrup from the Jackson Police Department