

Minutes of Homeless Steering Committee Meeting 4-23-20

1. Public Comment

None

2. Status of Homeless Plan

- Stephanie Hess from HHS told the group that the Homeless Plan would be available on May 1, 2020.

3. Project Room Key

Jim Foley, the HHS Director, gave an update on what project room key was during the COVID-19 pandemic.

- State program to provide hotel rooms for homeless individuals based on the following criteria:
 - They are COVID positive and need a place to quarantine
 - Person under investigation
 - They are high risk for COVID mortality
- Collaboration between Amador County and local hotels. HHS contacted every hotel and they all have declined to work with us.
- High risk folks would use vouchers. Lease provides liability protection for the County.
- Hotels appear to be afraid of COVID patients. They wanted to be paid in advance and were uncomfortable with the lease.
- The total funding for project Room Key is ~\$80,000
- Mary Pulskamp asked if we contacted every hotel in the county
- Bob Hartman asked about the possibility of obtaining “FEMA trailers”?

4. Outreach Committee

- The OR Committee postponed their Homeless Fair until the summer/fall of 2020
- There is a need for hygiene products
- The homeless need access to power outlets to charge their phones
- EOC is supplying hand sanitizer
- Tyx and Trixxie gave a big shout out to Paul Bramel of Café 88 for providing ~130 meals which were handed out every Wednesday

5. Open Discussion

- There was a strong interest in using special COVID funds to purchase portable showers, since the Food Bank remains closed including access to their showers
- There was an effort to contact the City of Jackson to use their pool showers but they have not received any response. Pat Crew said the Mayor is looking into it.

6. Actions

- Look into use of showers at transit station
- Masks for homeless

7. Future Agenda Items

None