



FINAL MINUTES
CITY OF SEASIDE
HOMELESS COMMISSION

SPECIAL MEETING
Council Chamber
Wednesday, October 22, 2025
5:30 PM

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Strickland called the 5:30 PM meeting to order at 5:36PM.

2. ROLL CALL - HOMELESS COMMISSION

PRESENT: Strickland, Mugan, Cunningham, Ruffin, Freeman
ABSENT: Hughes

3. REVIEW OF AGENDA

None

4. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5. PRESENTATIONS

A. RECEIVE PRESENTATION FROM DEAN SPARKS AND ADAM CONOUR ON PROJECT HOMEKEY

Adam Connor and Dean Sparks of **Anabasis LLC** presented an overview on projects they have done and are working on. The presentation underscored the effectiveness of the **Housing First** approach in reducing chronic homelessness and detailed how stable housing can significantly **lower costs** for city services. Key concerns from the commission specifically regarding **transient populations** and the potential impact on **TOT revenue** were addressed by the presenters, who also highlighted their extensive experience, including with **veteran-focused housing** initiatives.

6. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

A. APPROVE MINUTES FOR THE SEPTEMBER 3, 2025, REGULAR MEETING

On motion by Commissioner Ruffin and second by Commissioner Cunningham and carried by the following roll call vote, the Homeless Commission moved to approve the minutes for the September 3, 2025, Regular meeting.

RESULT: 5-0-0-1

AYES: Strickland, Mugan, Cunningham, Ruffin, Freeman

NOES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: Hughes

ACTION: Approved

7. BUSINESS ITEMS

A. DISCUSS ALLOCATION OF DONATION FUNDS FOR LOCAL YOUTH-FOCUSED HOMELESS ADVOCACY ORGANIZATIONS AND FOR HOMELESS SERVICES ORGANIZATIONS TO MEET HOLIDAY NEEDS

The commission discussed the different organizations they made donations to in the past for Holiday Meal Donations, they also discussed those programs that received extra funds from the city and would not like to fund those who did receive the extra funds from the city. The commission decided to give CH Services Casa de Noche Buena \$1,000, Stepping Stone \$1,000, Bethel Baptist Church on Elm Ave \$1,000, MPUSD Family Resource Center on La Salle Ave \$1,000, and Community Partnership for Youth (CPY) \$1,000.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

On motion by Commissioner Cunningham and second by Commissioner Muga and carried by the following roll call vote, the Homeless Commission moved to accept the recommendation allocation of \$5,000 in holiday donation. Each of the following five organization will receive \$1,000, Casa De Noche Buena, Stepping Stone, Bethel Baptist Church (Elm Ave0, MPUSD Family Resource Center (La Salle Ave), Community Partnership for Youth (CPY).

RESULT: 5-0-0-1

AYES: Strickland, Muga, Cunningham, Ruffin, Freeman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Hughes

ACTION: Passed

The commission discussed the different organizations they previously donated to in the past. The Commission agreed to exclude programs that had recently received significant, extra city funding, ensuring the donations reached a wider range of services. The Commission approved a total of \$5,000 in donations, distributing funds as follows: \$1,000 each to the Salvation Army-Angel Giving Tree Program, Community Partnership for Youth (CPY), and Bethel Baptist Church-Gifts for Kids. An additional \$1,200 was allocated to the CHS-Safe Place Youth Shelter, and \$800 went to CHS-Safe Passage.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

On motion by Commissioner Ruffin and second by Chair Strickland and carried by the following roll call vote, the Homeless Commission moved to approve a total of \$5,000 in donations, distributing funds as follows: \$1,000 each to the Salvation Army-Angel Giving Tree Program, Community Partnership for Youth (CPY), and Bethel Baptist Church-Gifts for Kids. An additional \$1,200 was allocated to the CHS-Safe Place Youth Shelter, and \$800 went to CHS-Safe Passage.

RESULT: 5-0-0-1

AYES: Strickland, Muga, Cunningham, Ruffin, Freeman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Hughes

ACTION: Passed

B. DISCUSS AWARDING OF CHALLENGE COINS TO PARTNERS AND STAKEHOLDERS DEVOTED TO RESOLVING HOMELESSNESS IN SEASIDE

The commission discussed the 35 individuals and organizations nominated to receive a 2025 Homeless Commission Challenge Coin. Following deliberation, the Commission moved to amend the recipient list by adding the following: Adam Conour and Dean Sparks from Anabasis, Danny Bakewell Sr. and Danny Bakewell Jr., and the organization All in Monterey.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

On motion by Commissioner Ruffin and second by Commissioner Cunningham and carried by the following roll call vote, the Homeless Commission moved to accepting the challenge coins the subcommittee recommended from number one 1-35 adding Adam Conour and Dean Sparks from Anabasis as one, Bakewell Company (Danny Sr. and Danny Jr.) as one, and All in Monterey.

RESULT: 4-0-1-1

AYES: Muga, Cunningham, Ruffin, Freeman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: Strickland

ABSENT: Hughes

ACTION: Passed

C. DISCUSS DEVELOPMENT OF PROPOSAL TO CITY OF SEASIDE NEIGHBORHOOD IMPROVEMENT COMMISSION FOR CONSIDERATION OF SEEKING FUNDING SUPPORT OF FUTURE SEASIDE HOMELESS COMMISSION WORK PLAN PROJECT

The commission discussed resubmitting the proposal for the solar charging station. They plan to ensure they emphasizes the significant benefits for youth and the community at large.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

On motion by Commissioner Cunningham and second by Commissioner Mugan and carried by the following roll call vote, the Homeless Commission moved to approving the formation of a subcommittee with Commissioner Cunningham and Commissioner Freeman prepare the solar charging picnic table presentation for the November 5th regular meeting, and turned in to NIC no later then the Nov. 7 meeting.

RESULT: 5-0-0-1

AYES: Strickland, Mugan, Cunningham, Ruffin, Freeman

NOES: None

ABSTAIN: None

ABSENT: Hughes

ACTION: Passed

D. DISCUSS COMMISSIONER GUIDANCE PERTAINING TO RESUMES AND EMPLOYMENT REFERENCES

The commission discussed resume and references guidelines. Derrick will get clarification if commissioners can use each other as a personal or professional reference. Chair Strickland will write a letter to the City Attorney to further inquire.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

8. REPORTS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioners provided reports.

Commissioner Freeman: the holidays are coming up the Salvation Army need volunteers for certain things. KSBW has the share your holiday drive drop-off donations will be at 1755 Monte Boulevard in Seaside, you can call and sign up to volunteer (831) 899-4911. They are doing a Thanksgiving food distribution, its going to be a drive-through pick-up November 21st at the Salvation Army 1491 Contra Costa St. Seaside. They are also looking for bell ringers you can sign-up registertoring.com. that will be from Nov. 24-Dec 24.

Commissioner Vice Chair Mugan: saw an article did not read it fully but the headline mention Monterey will be using their neighborhood funds to help support their budget deficit. Wants to add agenda item for next meeting to talk about advocacy plan.

Commissioner Ruffin: There's an event going on starting tomorrow at Carmel Monastery St. Teresa Lysix they are having their 100-year veneration along with Carmel Monastery there. Then Friday at 11am the intern bishop will be of Monterey giving mass for her. Parking will be at the community church at Carmel that will be Thursday-Saturday.

Commissioner Cunningham: one of the challenges Seaside might have NIC keep adding things to the city but there's no maintenance money for what's been added so you add bike racks but they get damaged and need maintenance and there's no support since its TOTE tax. It's easy to fund new things but its hard to fund maintenance. Asked if for next meeting an agenda item can be added to possibly form a subcommittee to work Annabasis for introduction to city, people, the relationship with breakthrough for men. Jim Vossen at the chamber of commerce to make this permanent supporting housing in seaside happen. SNAP is no longer going to be funded next month, was hoping to get the food and insecurity donations out sooner rather than later but realized it's not possible.

Commissioner Chair Strickland: Ideas on who to bring in for each meeting to present to the commission. Would like to bring back challenge coins to be decided how they will be distributed. Will make an effort to keep business items on track and not let it get side track and also reenforce commissioners to use microphone.

9. REPORTS FROM STAFF

Staff provided report.

Derrick: will reach out to city manager to see if he can come to next meeting. Will follow up on the parameter of resumes, employment references.

10. ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:33PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Denise Mejia, Commission Clerk



Ben Strickland, Commission Chair