



MEMORANDUM

CC-26-135

Confirming the Appointment of Elizabeth Lakshmi Kanter to the Planning Commission

Item Type: Action Memorandum
Prepared For: Mayor Lord and Homer City Council
Date: July 22, 2026
From: Amy Woodruff, City Clerk

SUMMARY:

Planning Commissioner Samuel Walker submitted his resignation for the Planning Commission (PC) on June 26, 2026. His resignation created an opening that can be filled by a city resident or a non-resident (NR).

The City Clerk's office has received three applications for the open seat on the PC. The Council Operating Manual, states "Applications for appointment to boards and commissions will be on file in the City Clerk's office for those considered for appointment. The Mayor will submit a list the names of those considered to the City Council." The applicants are listed below in the order applications were received along with their resident/non-resident status:

- Elizabeth Lakshmi Kanter (NR)
- Sean Dickson (NR)
- Harold Shepard (NR)

Mayor Lord has appointed Elizabeth Lakshmi Kanter to the PC seat, subject to confirmation by City Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

Approve this memorandum to confirm the resignation of Samuel Walker and the appointment of Elizabeth Lakshmi Kanter to the Planning Commission

ATTACHMENTS:

Resignation of Samuel Walker; application of Elizabeth Lakshmi Kanter to the Planning Commission

From: [Sammy Walker](#)
To: [Rachel Lord](#)
Cc: [Amy Woodruff](#)
Subject: HAPC resignation
Date: Friday, June 26, 2026 4:28:01 PM

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Hi Rachel, Amy—

I'm afraid I need to resign from my seat on the planning commission (effective immediately) in order to take care of an ongoing family emergency. I simply don't have the time to devote to this that it deserves. I'm really bummed to back out of a commitment like this but I just need to put other things first right now.

Thank you

-Sammy

Sammy Walker
Alaska Timberframe



From: [Application for Appointment to an Advisory Body](#)
To: [Department Clerk](#)
Subject: ** Application for Appointment **
Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2026 5:36:46 PM

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Submitted on Wednesday, July 8, 2026 - 5:36pm

Submitted by anonymous user: 162.142.118.29

Submitted values are:

Applicant Information

Full Name Elizabeth Lakshmi Kanter

Physical Address Where you Claim Residency 65370

Diamond Ridge Rd. Homer AK 99603

Mailing Address PO Box 1195 Homer AK 99603

Phone Number(s) [REDACTED]

Advisory Bodies Planning Commission – Meetings held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. and Worksessions at 5:30 p.m. prior to each meeting. No first meeting in July or second meetings in November and December.

Residency

Are you a City Resident? No

How long have you been a resident of the South Peninsula Area? Mostly here since June 2024. Back and forth from late 2021-mid2024. Lived in Homer 2004-5.

Background Information

Have you ever served on a similar advisory body?

No

Other memberships Homer Chamber of Commerce
Special Training & Education

Served as general contractor for my personal major home renovation in the Borough. Have been a homeowner and landlady out of state since 2010.

Have been coaching individuals around health, wellbeing and mindset since 2011 - much of which is based in presence, awareness, skillful listening and inquiry.

Familiar with Roberts Rules of Order from 4 years of high school Model UN.

Why are you interested in serving on the selected Advisory Body?

I lived in Homer over 20 years ago, and remember when owning land here was more affordable. I was astonished and dismayed to learn of how many teachers and others with full time, gainful

employment have had difficulty finding and affording year round housing - and how many of these people live out of their cars in the summer.

I understand there are numerous additional commercial and civic ripples that also require attention as the population increases. Growth is a good thing, and thoughtful planning can support the entirety of the community in growing together to allow Homer to continue to flourish with less bumps along the way. I look forward to the opportunity to participate in the Planning Commission and being a part of this process!

For Planning Commission Only: Have you ever developed real property other than a personal residence? No

Email [REDACTED]

The results of this submission may be viewed at:

<https://www.cityofhomer-ak.gov/node/9051/submission/54903>