



Kankakee ECDA
Community Advisory Board
April 1, 2026, 12:00 p.m. Council
Chambers, 385 E. Oak St.

Regular Meeting Minutes

The regular meeting of the Community Advisory Board ("Board") of the City of Kankakee's Economic and Community Development Agency ("ECDA") was called to order by ECDA Assistant Director Miya Petitgoue on Wednesday, April 1, 2026 at 12:06 p.m. in the Council Chambers, proper notice having been given to the public and Board members. There were no public comments. The following Board members were present: Roderick Sessions (1), Pat Coy via Zoom (3), Paula Robinson (4), Zelma Evans (6), and Nettie Williams (7). Asst. Director Miya Petitgoue recognized a quorum was present.

Assistant Director Petitgoue asked the Board to review the March 4, 2026 regular meeting minutes, which had been made available to the Board in advance of the meeting. **Upon a motion by Board Member Robinson and seconded by Board Member Evans, the Board voted on a voice vote to approve the meeting minutes from March 4, 2026.**

Assistant Director Petitgoue presented the ECDA report to the Board. ECDA Housing Rehabilitation has 23 construction projects in progress with 4 completed in the month of March (1 Lead Hazard Control, 2 Healthy Homes Production and 1 Community Development Block Grant Demolitions). ECDA waitlists still remain closed and at 160 for General Waitlist and 80 for Lead Assistance Waitlist. A reminder was given for the Healthy Homes Production Grant Program's 2026 wrap up. All projects must be in contract by April 2026 and construction must be completed by August 2026. At this time, HUD's Office of Lead Hazard Control and Healthy Homes (OLHCHH) is not continuing this grant program for additional funding opportunities.

In continuing the ECDA Report, Construction Project reporting was provided for Lead Program (8 in progress and 1 completed), Healthy Homes (6 in progress and 2 completed), Community Development Block Grant (8 in progress and 1 completed), Median Income Rehabilitation Assistance (1 in progress), and Rental Rehabilitation Program (6 in intake). This program is not open to applications but will be moving through the already existing waitlist from round one of the program. Board Member Evans asked for clarity on how landlords are eligible for the Rental Rehab Program. Assistant Director Petitgoue confirmed that the eligibility requirements for households are the same as other ECDA Housing Rehabilitation programming – tenants will have to income qualify based off Housing and Urban Development (HUD) income limits.

Board Member Williams asked for a list of addresses that are receiving assistance through the ECDA Rehabilitation Programs. Assistant Director Petitgoue communicated that because of resident confidentiality, a request for this information would have to be formally requested through a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request with legal. However, there is a list of homes that have received a lead clearance through ECDA programming on the website as a grant requirement. Asst. Director Petitgoue also communicated that she would provide the Board with a number of homes that have been assisted in their Wards.

Community Advisory Board Members: Roderick Sessions (1), Ximena Ramirez (2), Pat Coy (3), Paula Robinson (4), Doug Young (5), Zelma Evans (6), Nettie Williams (7)

Board Member Sessions asked if the Private Security Incentive Program (“PSIP”) was actively accepting applications. Assistant Director Petitgoue communicated that the program was open and has \$4,842.00 in remaining funds. There were no reimbursements processed for this program in March.

A State of Illinois Community Development Block Grant Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (CDBG – DCEO “Shelter Grant”) update was shared. Following the public bid opening on March 5, 2026, a City Council resolution was passed to enter into contract for the lowest bidder in each of the seven (7) project areas. ECDA and City team are working on putting those contracts together now. CDBG Public Service Agencies submitted a Quarterly Report in February but no reimbursement drawdowns have been processed. The 2026-27 Program Year Allocations are on the agenda for further recommendation at the April 6, 2026 City Council Community Development (CD) Committee. It will go before City Council on April 20, 2026 for final approval.

ECDA’s Economic Development update included data from February 2026. There were ten (10) new business licenses processed. Five (5) businesses provided data through our Business Retention surveys – some also participated in on-site visits with ECDA staff and/or City Administration. ECDA continues to promote its office’s programs through social media outreach (1,561 Facebook followers, 432 Instagram followers) and electronic newsletter (652 subscribers). ECDA will be hosting a Community Conversation with Prairie State Legal Services on Housing Rights on April 9, 2026 at 5:30 PM at the Lisieux Center. Assistant Director Petitgoue reviewed upcoming events for the next quarter, inviting Community Advisory Board Members to participate. A list of dates and times will be sent via email to members, along with contact information for Community Outreach Coordinator, Samantha Rocknowski, who facilitates these events.

Under Old Business, Assistant Director Petitgoue reminded the Board that she would be taking photos of them for their headshot on the website and that there is a bio questionnaire that needs to be completed. There was also discussion again about upcoming events and the purpose of CAB involvement to show the community who they are.

Under CAB Comments, Board Member Coy commended the Kankakee County community for coming together following the March 10, 2026 storm. Other Board Members echoed the sentiment. Having no additional CAB comments, Assistant Director Petitgoue requested a motion to adjourn.

Upon a motion by Board Member Evans and seconded by Board Member Sessions, the Board voted via voice vote to adjourn at 12:45 p.m.

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday, May 6, 2026 at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Miya Petitgoue