



Kankakee ECDA
Community Advisory Board
May 6, 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, May 6, 2026 at 12:09 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: Pat Coy (3), Doug Young (5), 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 April 1, 2026 regular meeting minutes, which had been made available to the Board in advance of the meeting. **Upon a motion by Board Member Evans and seconded by Board Member Williams, the Board voted on a voice vote to approve the meeting minutes from April 1, 2026.**

Assistant Director Petitgoue presented the ECDA report to the Board. ECDA Housing Rehabilitation has 27 construction projects in progress with 3 completed in the month of April (3 Lead Hazard Control). 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. Remaining seven (7) projects are the final projects in this grant and construction must be completed by August 2026. Asst. Director Petitgoue also communicated that she is still working with Program Managers to confirm the number of homes that have been assisted in each Ward through the full grant cycles. An update on the State of Illinois Community Development Block Grant Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity (CDBG – DCEO "Shelter Grant") update was shared. ECDA and City team are working on putting the seven (7) project contracts together now, expected to be in contract by mid-June.

Board Member Williams requested clarity on what the report means when indicating construction projects are "In Progress". Assistant Director Petitgoue communicated that the 27 projects in progress are those that are past income eligibility and engaged with a Program Manager. This could mean they are scheduled for inspection or all the way to closing out their construction. It was clarified that the wait lists are individuals who have not received income eligibility and are currently at 160 (general) and 80 (lead specific).

CDBG Public Service Agencies for 2025-26 will be submitting their final report May 15, no reimbursement drawdowns have been processed at this time. The 2026-27 Program Year Allocations received final approval from City Council April 20, 2026. Though the City of Kankakee process for allocation of these funds is on track to start in the May 1, 2026 fiscal year, ECDA has not received their Grant Agreement from HUD's Community Development Department to fund these programs. Once the Grant Agreement is received from the funder, ECDA will be able to move forward with Grant Agreements for the agencies awarded. Agencies will be able to utilize the Program Year reimbursements starting at May 1, 2026.

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)

Assistant Director Petitgoue communicated that the City of Kankakee is still deliberating about the 2026-2027 Budget, but there is discussion about continuing the Private Security Incentive Program. Currently the program is open and has \$4,532.02 in remaining funds. There were two (2) reimbursements processed for this program in April for \$309.98.

ECDA's Economic Development update included data from March 2026. There were 13 new business licenses processed. Assistant Director Petitgoue communicated that ECDA will be providing updated retention data following the end of the fiscal year (April 2026) in months to come. Board Member Coy asked about the locations of new businesses listed and Asst. Director Petitgoue clarified that any with a "*" in the report indicates they are homebased. 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 (1,592 Facebook followers, 437 Instagram followers), electronic newsletter (654 subscribers), and LinkedIn (223 followers). ECDA will be hosting a Community Conversation with Home Helpers on Aging in Place on May 14, 2026 at 5:30 PM at the Bird Park Meeting Room; a NonProfit Workshop in partnership with United Way on May 26, 2026 from 8 – 10:00 AM at the KCC Iroquois Room; and the Neighborhood Cookout from 1 – 4:00 PM at the Civic Auditorium on the Kankakee County Museum grounds. Assist. Director Petitgoue communicated opportunities for CAB Members to volunteer with this event and to connect with Community Outreach Coordinator, Samantha Rocknowski, who facilitates these events.

Assistant Director Petitgoue reviewed the Community Advisory Board goals. There was an email sent out to work on scheduling a time to meeting with CAB Members, Ward Councilmembers, and ECDA Directors. The purpose of this meeting time is to establish communication with Ward Council reps to understand Ward-specific needs. This is the first portion of the goals for second quarter.

Under Old Business, Assistant Director Petitgoue reviewed two (2) available Storm Recovery Resources. United Way's Disaster Relief Fund has provided program funding to Kankakee County Community Services, Inc (KCCSI) for residents to apply for financial assistance. The Small Business Association (SBA) is providing low interest, long term loans to businesses, residents, and non-profits impacted by the storm. Additional information for each program can be found on social media, agency websites, or by phone at: KCCSI 815-933-7883 ext. 214 and SBA 800-659-2955

Under CAB Comments, Board Member Coy asked about CAB Member involvement and potential new CAB Members. Assist. Director Petitgoue stated that the new CAB Member process will start in November 2026.

Assistant Director Petitgoue requested a motion to adjourn. **Upon a motion by Board Member Coy and seconded by Board Member Evans, the Board voted via voice vote to adjourn at 12:45 p.m.**

The next meeting of the Committee will be Wednesday, June 3, 2026 at 12:00 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Miya Petitgoue

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)