



City of Petersburg
Community Development Block Grant (CDBG)
Advisory Board Meeting Minutes
6:00pm, January 21, 2026
Petersburg Public Library

- **Meeting called to order** at 6:05p, by Chair Shabaka Moore.
- **Advisory Board Members (AB)** in attendance: Sonja Holt-Cartwright, Leonard Curry, Marcus Squires, Bernard Harper, Tonya Brown, Genevieve Lohr, Corey Wesson, and CDBG Admin Jennifer Murphy-James.
- A quorum was determined and a moment of silence observed.
- The December 17, 2025 meeting minutes were accepted and seconded, with a correction to Marcus Squires' name, which was listed as Mark Squires.
- **Report from CDBG Administrator:**
 - Jennifer Murphy-James provided updates on scheduled meetings location at the library, noting potential double-booking, and suggesting attendees go to the front desk for assistance if this occurs
 - The application for PY2026 funding opens on Friday January 23. A public hearing of needs is scheduled for the February 18th meeting. The importance of AB member promotion of the public hearing was encouraged for accurate feedback that HUD requires. The application period closes on March 31st, followed by a presentation of proposals at the March meeting, where applicants have the opportunity to pitch their projects.

- AB members were encouraged to reach out to their prospective council members to align the advisory board's recommendations with the council's vision. This is to ensure project selections fit within the City's CDBG Consolidated Plan, as HUD scrutinizes misalignment between funded projects and the plan.
- **Legislative Update:** Leonard Curry delivered a legislative update, confirming CDBG was protected from proposed cuts, with Congress consolidating appropriation bills.
- A discussion was held regarding the structure of the public interest of needs meeting. It was decided to use an interactive approach to hear from and engage the community. In preparation, board members will review the Consolidated Plan.
- **Public Comment Period :** Leslie Hayden, community radio broadcaster, has received a license to have a FM community radio station in Petersburg. Attended to learn about the board's work to inform the public of valuable resources.
- Motion to adjourn was made and seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 7:00pm .