



**ADA Advisory Committee**  
**Thursday, June 26, 2025 @ 3:00 PM**  
Evanston Public Library / Zoom

**1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL**

Members present: Murphy Monroe, Jack Kleisner, Litrea Hunter, Donna Stevens, Mark Karlin, Aby Karottu, Ted Gram-Boarini, Lisa Kaya-Noble

Guests: Fred Wittenberg, Josie Heller, Margaret Storey, Penelope Lassman, Megan Lassman, John Kapetan, Terrie Michaels, Patrick Hughes

Staff: Yazarri Gutierrez (Senior Services Coordinator), Lauren Ruiz (Inclusion & Accessibility Division Manager), Kimberly Kull (Division Chief, Emergency Management, Fire Dept.)

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The May 22 minutes were approved by Mark Karlin and Lisa Kaya-Noble.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

There were no public comments at this meeting outside of questions and comments included in the items for discussion notes below.

**4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION**

Guest speakers: Margaret Storey and Josie Heller, Evanston/Park School family leading the Prieto Day Program project

- Individuals with high medical support needs have no options available once they age out of school. Very limited number of day programs available overall but those with g-tubes, seizures, one-to-one personal care needs are unable to attend these programs due to staffing ratios/qualifications.
- Group of parents whose children attend Park School have been working with Evanston Inclusion & Accessibility staff, Evanston Parks Foundation, and representatives from Park School to design a day program to be located at Prieto Community Center
- Outside of facility space and administrative oversight, all funds needed for the

program will be based on grants, fundraising, and family tuition. Specialized staffing, specialized medical equipment, supplies are needed prior to opening.

- Currently meeting with Councilmembers to share background information, ideas and plans, and to gather support for approval of new staffing positions in the Parks & Rec department for the program
- 8-10 total participants would eventually be the max number served
- Questions discussed:
  - Will attendees need to be Evanston residents? Discussion included focusing on a similar relationship to what Park School has with surrounding areas, goal of providing scholarship to non-residents and those unable to pay tuition to make the program as financially accessible as possible
  - How will eligibility be determined? Still TBD
  - Max age? Still TBD
- Attendees shared resources to connect with in the community for day program info

Updates about previous inquiries/grievances:

- Farmers Market Text Description Map: progress continuing, accuracy difficult due to vendor location changes
- Pedestrian crosswalks surrounding Evanston Hospital: IDOT reports signals on Central to be included in plans for 2026-27 calendar year.

New inquiries/grievances:

- Community center customer service/hidden disability awareness: additional customer service and Hidden Disability Sunflower trainings provided to staff, issue immediately addressed with Center staff
- Enforcement of accessible parking spots near 730 Main: parking enforcement increasing patrol of this area
- Beach Mobi-mats and mat extensions: access mats available for visitors to use at beaches and all City events
- Art Makers Outpost entrance: a new mobile ramp is available

Training/education updates:

- Inclusion & Accessible Rec at Hill Arboretum: 6/10
- Advocacy Avenue at Prieto: July's theme - Disability Pride!
  - Event ideas: Pride Panel? The Disability Pride Panel will take place on Sat. July 26 at 2 PM at Prieto Community Center. Attendees volunteered to sit on the Panel.

Other items:

- New ADA Advisory Committee meeting day/time poll: same day/time had highest number of votes - meetings will remain monthly on Thursdays at 3 PM
- Next meeting: to be determined based on poll results, communication will be sent by July 3

## 5. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

There were no additional comments from the Committee.

## 6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 4:03 PM.