



AGENDA
ADA Advisory Committee
Thursday, February 22, 2024
3:00 PM

**Evanston Public Library, 1703 Orrington Ave,
Falcon Room # 303**

(I) CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

(II) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

(III) PUBLIC COMMENTS

(IV) ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Updates about previous inquiries and grievances (none at this time)

Review of new inquiries/grievances

- Mobile DMV at Civic Center: inaccessible camera
- Robert Crown Library: computer tables inaccessible for individuals using power wheelchairs
- Bus stops along Oakton
- NorShore Cab Company
- Devil Dawgs: loud music outside
- Garbage pick-up accommodation request

Training/education updates

- Upcoming Disability Awareness Event - Feb. 28!
 - Arrivals
 - Tasks
 - Event introductions
 - Accommodations and lunch

- Mingling
 - Work Plan check in to come at March meeting
- Committee membership
- Flyer created
 - Link to form on ADA Advisory Committee webpage
 - AccessibleNU

Other items

- Updated Division title/manager title
- Parks & Rec Special Recreation Little Beans facility use
- Dog Beach improvement info
- March meeting date change: 3/21

(V) COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

(VI) ADJOURNMENT



ADA Advisory Committee
Thursday, January 25, 2024 @ 3:00 PM
Evanston Public Library

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Members Present: Litrea Hunter, Jim Johnson, Cherie Lockett, Donna Stevens, Tom Bobowski

Guests: Kathy Lyons, John Strauss, Alyssa Ruzzin, Betsy Uzzell, Natalie Hardy, Jack Kleisner

Staff Present: Lauren Ruiz (Inclusion & Accessibility Division Manager), Amy Kellogg (Senior Services Division Manager), Rachel Stams (Senior Services Advocate), Mackenzie Ireland (Inclusion Coordinator)

The meeting was called to order at 3:05pm.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The group agreed to approve the November 21 minutes.

3. PUBLIC COMMENTS

- A Committee member shared a negative experience he had with a door-to-door solicitor who was offering internet service and equipment. It was confirmed that this was a scam. The group discussed seniors and individuals with disabilities being targeted frequently and encouraged everyone to use caution.
- A visitor commented that he was satisfied with recent communication related to an inquiry he had made about Evanston CTA accessibility. He shared that he is involved with the Senior Chat group at Levy Senior Center and Manager Ruiz will be visiting to talk with the group in the future.

4. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Updates about previous inquiries and grievances

- Prerecorded newsletters for Levy and Parks & Rec: planning to put out an invite for volunteers to read newsletters via phone call if requested. Info to be shared at Levy Senior Center, with Northwestern, ETHS. The Committee suggested and discussed background checks for volunteers who are interacting directly with individuals with

disabilities, guidelines/simple training for volunteers. A visitor shared that the Senior Chat group would be interested in joining this group and a Committee member also volunteered. There are waivers and fingerprinting required for in-person volunteers currently for people working with vulnerable populations in the Parks & Rec dept. Manager Ruiz will put together background check/waiver procedures and guidelines prior to requesting volunteers for help with any future accommodations.

- Accessible entrance signs at Noyes: installation is complete: 3 new signs. Request for a doorbell has been made in case the door isn't unlocked. Manager Ruiz to purchase this.

Review of new inquiries/grievances

- CTA stops are not accessible/Levy senior group advocacy: Manager Ruiz met with the CTA's ADA Compliance Manager, Irma Gomez-Fierro. The CTA is in "phase 1" of their All Station Accessibility Program and she predicts this phase will not be completed until 2028. This phase does not include Evanston stops. Phase 2, where we begin to see purple line construction, is still in the funding stages at this point. Resources provided about this project, CTA ADA Services and Features, and a CTA ADA Disability Guide.
- Length of stoplights and pedestrian crossing signals: The signal time at a signalized intersection is based on available traffic lanes, volume, coordination with other nearby traffic signals. A 7-second "walk" time is provided typically. Contact 311 with any specific location concerns so staff electricians can review it. With traffic signal upgrades, all signals are reviewed to provide adequate time for crossing, countdown indications, and audible pedestrian signals.
- Parked cars blocking sidewalks: Contact non-emergency police number with this concern.
- Sidewalk width along Main: Manager Ruiz measured these areas. 36 inch minimum sidewalk width based on ADA (new PROWAG requirements are 48 inches). These areas had a minimum width of 38 inches. All new sidewalk construction under the City's Sidewalk Improvement Program has a standard width of 5.3 feet except in rare instances where an obstruction is in place.
- Mobile DMV sites for 2024: An inquiry was made requesting additional mobile DMV events at Fleetwood-Jourdain. There will be one in February and one to be planned for April which will include a resource fair for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The group expressed interest in volunteering for the April event. Other mobile DMV events include Levy Senior Center: June and October and the ongoing mobile site at the Civic Center.

Training/education updates

- ADA/Disability Services: Manager Ruiz has met with Public Works, Community Development, Parking Services, Library departments
- ADA Transition Plan Annual Update feedback: no changes or questions were provided. This Update will be shared in the City e-newsletter and posted on the ADA/Disability Services website in the near future.
- Disability Awareness Event: Feb. 28: JJ's List "Disability Awareness Players" are booked! 10:30am at the Civic Center. This event will be specifically for Parks & Rec supervisors and City Disability Access Liaison Team members. Manager Ruiz requested assistance from the Committee in hosting the event and the group expressed interest.

Committee membership

- Application updates: It has been decided by the Commission and Committee Chairs that Evanston residents with disabilities will have preference at this time when considering new Committee members.
- Current openings available: 8 openings available at this time.

5. COMMENTS FROM THE COMMITTEE

- A member shared the need for more ticketing at intersections to hold drivers accountable when they do not obey traffic/pedestrian signals and right-of-way
- A member requested additional information about the future improvements to be made to the City's dog beach

6. ADJOURNMENT