

ADA Playground Committee Meeting Minutes

August 24, 2026

The ADA Playground Advisory Committee met on Monday August 24th. Those present were Jessi Enyiaku, Adam Wood, Steve Eyrich and Holly Eyrich

Absent were Rhonda Carter, Bre Wallace, Christy Hudson, and Erika Weber.

The committee reviewed rough cost estimates for the ADA-accessible playground project, with a total project estimate in the range of \$500,000.

- The centerpiece accessible play structure, comparable to similar features at other parks researched, is estimated at roughly \$200,000. This unit includes wider paths and ramps designed to make play accessible to children with a broader range of abilities. Lower-cost versions could bring this piece down to a minimum of about \$100,000.
- Smaller surrounding equipment (e.g., merry-go-round-style pieces) is estimated at roughly \$10,000–\$20,000 each.

Committee members visited two comparable parks and shared information to share with the committee.

The Committee discussed a conceptual layout for the new fenced ADA play area:

- Preferred main entrance location is on the side nearest the Civic Center, where existing parking is more convenient.
- The conceptual fenced area would extend from the west side of the existing walking path, run south, then turn west just south of the existing equipment, excluding the current small toy feature, which would be relocated or transplanted to another park.
- The existing fence quote does not cover the full conceptual area discussed (notably along the hedge row on the south side); extending the fence line to the hedge row, as raised during a walkthrough with the fencing contractor, would increase the cost beyond the current quote.
- The contractor indicated the fence work (extending to 6 feet and closing existing openings) could be completed within a week, starting the week after the festival — contingent on funding being secured.
- Access for equipment delivery (e.g., a lift/jet truck) was discussed; the existing gap is roughly 12–14 feet wide and a truck as wide as 8'6" can fit through, though it is tight.

The committee agreed the playground concept should be broken into distinct, itemized sections so specific costs can be tied to specific features. Proposed sections include:

1. Sensory garden
2. Main inclusive play area
3. Additional equipment area (southeast side)
4. Swing area (including accessible/handicap swings)

Itemizing costs per section will allow the committee to pursue **section sponsorships**, with sponsor recognition signage (e.g., "sponsored by") at each sponsored section or on individual sponsored equipment pieces. The committee discussed how to word solicitations so that

sponsoring a whole section remains attractive even if certain individual pieces within it are separately sponsored.

An existing packet created to introduce the vision to businesses, will be revised to reflect the section-based sponsorship structure and combined with a donor solicitation letter, potentially as a second page offering specific sponsorship options. Contact will be made with April Jones and Nikki Wilson, who have run fundraisers for the town's skate park, and with Yolanda Woods (involved in fundraising for the original playground feature) to benchmark realistic fundraising expectations

The committee noted a separate frog water-fountain feature currently in the park would need to be removed as part of the redesign. It was confirmed with the parks contact, Donnie, and the water department, which does not anticipate issues with removal.

The committee discussed creating a closed Facebook group to crowdsource ideas and updates, allowing members who can't attend evening meetings to contribute on their own schedule. A dedicated website was also discussed as a possible future step to point toward the group or campaign.

A donor letter is being finalized and will be hand-delivered where practical, particularly to local business owners/decision-makers; for larger or out-of-town organizations, it will be mailed or sent through appropriate channels. A larger community fundraiser event may be planned for spring, once the itemized plan and cost estimates are finalized, to generate visibility and direct donations.

The current posted park hours are 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. The committee discussed whether the new ADA play area might need its own, potentially more restricted, hours and a formal gate-locking procedure, weighed against the inconvenience to families using the adjacent standard playground equipment inside the same fenced footprint.

The committee will use the city's measuring wheel to physically measure the conceptual fenced area on site, in order to scale the existing fence quote to the actual proposed footprint and get a clearer cost comparison.

The next meeting was scheduled for 5:30 pm Monday September 28, 2026 at City Hall

The Committee meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jessi Enyiaku