



The Perfect Match

LWVH, Pat Simons

Who we are....

“LWV’s principles include the requisite that government bodies protect the citizen’s right to know by giving adequate notice of proposed actions, holding open meetings and making public records accessible.” Looking for Sunshine, LWVUS





- MLD is adopting intentional goals and strategies to...
 - building membership through retention and new membership
 - encourage and mentor new and emerging leaders
 - finding ways to promote League with strategies for visibility
- Observer Corps is an established, proven League program...
 - any member can participate
 - it assures Open Government through Open Meetings and Public Records access
 - resources and tools are available. BUT!
 - We must address technology advances and *The New Breed of Volunteer.*

Benefits

Benefits for Membership

- All members can participate
- Good activity for less active members, retention
- Great activity for new member, engagement

Benefits for Leadership

- New members learn important League process and positions
- More knowledge, more confidence, first rung on the leadership ladder
- Inactive members can renew interest by pursuing their own interests, motivation and activism

LWVH addresses the New Breed of Volunteer Traits and Technology Advances in the Observer Corps Program



Flexibility

- Offer team approach
- Approved online and cable TV observation
- Reports not due until the next board meeting, so observation and reporting can be delayed
- Encourage pursuit of personal interests and choose the public body they want to observe

Empowered, Not Micro-managed

- Provide training and mentorship to enhance success
- Once trained the Observer is in charge of their report product
- Reports – Latitude is given, a balance of objectivity on Sunshine Laws compliance but still allows Observer's insights
- Observer can initiate action with the Board if an important issue arises
- Over time, Observer becomes expert in their chosen public body proceedings and League positions.

Wants Positive Experience and to Make a Difference

- Over time Observer gains confidence with experience and knowledge as their expertise grows
- Learns to align League positions with issues and take action
- Benefits the community by having the background and expertise to take action
- Logs volunteer hours as record of valuable time spent, recognized and awarded

Tech Savvy

- Encourage accessing livestream meetings and download accompanying documents
- Can readily navigate government websites to glean and monitor information
- Can produce a report in WORD, can attach and email report
- More likely to track public body/government activity using tech apps

Busy Schedule

- Online/cable observation on own schedule
- Report form template has checklist of Sunshine Laws compliance; requires very little narrative reporting.
- Report can be submitted any time up until the next board meeting
- Share observer role with another member or become an observer team

MLD



Observer Corps

An active Observer Corps strengthens League, enriches the community and effects good government. It invites all members to participate in personal and important ways within their own schedules and by making the 'work' as easy as possible. Applying MLD strategy : focus on members' interests, new members and inactive members and offer mentorship and training.

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