

LWV Observer Corps Guidelines

Background:

- LWV Observer Corps is program that is maintained by Leagues at the local, state, and national levels.
- LWV of Kittitas County is relaunching the program

Purpose

- Identify local issues
- Ensure that open meeting requirements are met
- Promote transparency
- Educate ourselves about how government works

Procedures

- Letter of intro will be sent to commission/council/board
- Check website for your commission/council/board
 - Function and jurisdiction of unit
 - Names of members or officials
 - Agendas or other info
- If attending for the first time, arrive a little early and introduce yourself before the meeting begins. Remote attendance is an option if it's available, though best to attend in person if possible.
- Wear your Observer pin
- Bring the Observer Corps Report Form (download from our website).
- Listen, observe, and take notes, but **do not** participate. Do not speak for the League about any issue.
- If you need clarification, feel free to ask questions after the meeting or email the chair of the committee.
- Within a week, email the report form and your comments to me at krrmndlwv@gmail.com
- What does League do with info?
 - Newsletter
 - Inform board
 - Update at general mtg.
 - Basis for advocacy

OPMA – Open Public Meeting Act

- All meetings of govt agencies are open to the public
- “Meeting” occurs when a quorum (majority) is present and action is taken (includes discussion and deliberation, not just voting)
- All people are eligible to attend and can't be required to give their name or other info. Disorderly people can be removed
- No secret ballots
- Adoption of ordinances are invalid if not passed in a public mtg
- Committees that are purely advisory are exempt