

Naples Daily News Letters to the editor: May 31, 2009

<http://www.naplesnews.com/news/2009/may/30/letters-editor-may-31-2009/>

Letter: Let the sunshine in

Editor, Daily News:

Re: "Productivity panel secrecy" in Jeff Lytle's column of May 24.

The League of Women Voters of Collier County shares his and Nancy Payton's view that the county commissioners' Productivity Committee meetings should be televised.

We believe the meetings of the School Board's Subcommittee on Education and its newly-formed Independent Community Referendum Oversight Committee should be televised as well.

We appreciate the contribution without pay of time and talent that those serving on these committees are making to our community, and we can understand their reluctance to have their deliberations televised.

Most of us who volunteer in the community do not want to call attention to ourselves. We volunteer because we care and because we want to make a difference. We are not and do not want to be public or political figures.

Still, if these meetings were televised, many more Collier citizens would have the opportunity to observe and, as a result, be more informed voters.

In that spirit, we commend those serving on the School Board's Subcommittee on Operations and the other advisory committees which allow their meetings to be televised; and we urge those who serve on non-televised committees to do the same. We believe this transparency would promote greater community awareness, understanding and ultimately participation in the issues of local government.

We urge those who share our view to let their county commissioner and the School Board know.

For their contact information, visit www.lwvcolliercounty.org.

Sandy Parker, President, League of Women Voters of Collier County