



COPP Recruitment, Meetings, Patrol, Recognition

Recruitment:

Some groups attend trade shows, others recruit from other volunteer organizations, some have done door to door or just ask neighbors/friends, ads in papers, public areas.

Meetings:

Are your meetings run as per Roger's Rules of Order? Have an agenda, stay on track (not a social event, can do that before or after meeting) and have a time frame for meetings & stick to that. Ask your people for feedback as they know what they like & not like. Is it an option to meet every 2nd month & still accomplish business? Some groups have bylaws dealing with meeting attendance for board members and their AGM. Some groups have these in place and others don't. The groups that do have more structure and some "rules" to fall back on if there are difficulties. Plus, you've got a mechanism in place to ensure someone doesn't wind-up being the group coordinator for life! Include training as part of your meeting. Anything that's new is interesting. Meetings have to be informative, fun & engaging; the right chair is critical.

Suggestion - Your organization may need specific personality types & job skilled people on boards; you seek these people out/recruit. Respect the "good person"; that is not always enough to generate forward thinking, strategic planning and accountability.

Patrol:

The groups either have someone assigned to set up the schedule or most groups actually do this at the meeting where each individual fills in the dates that work for their life. Groups who schedule their patrols are doing way more than groups that don't schedule. Some have by laws stating how many hours/patrols you have to do to remain current.

Recognition:

The groups that are recognized by their local government, community and most of all, law enforcement is one key to recognition. They really do need a pat on the back now and then; they like to hear from the police that the COPP is providing a valuable service