

April 12, 2021

The League of Women Voters of Dane County is disappointed to see that the agenda for the April 15 PCOB meeting does not offer members of the public or members of the Board the opportunity to review the minutes of the previous meeting and the proposed action of the upcoming meeting ahead of time and determine if there are issues they would like to raise with the Board.

When the only information available to members and the public are the titles "Equitable Hiring Tool Taskforce Update (Progress, Timeline)" and "Next Steps in Process for Hiring the Independent Police Monitor"—with no additional detail—there is not an opportunity for meaningful input on the part of the public or Board members.

At the time the agenda was posted on Friday, minutes for the March 18 meeting were not available. This makes it difficult for members of the public and the Board to determine the specific actions the Board took at its previous meeting.

The ordinance which created the PCOB states that the Board is "required to work collaboratively with the community to review and make recommendations regarding police discipline, use of force, and other policies and activities. . ." We encourage the committee to make it possible for the community to understand the Board's work and provide helpful comments.

We were encouraged to hear the Board chair announce that in the future training materials will be made available in advance. We hope that by Tuesday April 13 the minutes of the March 18 meeting, including the precise language of any motion adopted by the Board, will be made available to the public, and that no later than Wednesday April 14 background detail for the Equitable Hiring Tool and the Process for the Hiring the Independent Police Monitor will be added to the agenda.

Thank you for your consideration.

Kate Vickery Pronouns I use: she, her, hers Executive Director