

Pride in Federal Service

Monthly Member Meeting Minutes

September 23, 2022

- 1. Welcome: Matthew Toland (he/him/his) and Robert Morris (he/him/his), Co-Chairs**
 - Matt Toland called the meeting to order with an introduction and welcome, and he introduced Robert Morris.
 - Robert welcomed everyone to the first full day of Autumn, acknowledging the weather in Tennessee really reflects the seasonal change. It was 95 in Tennessee on Wednesday, and it was 70 today! He remarked it was like traveling down the interstate at 95 and seeing a State Trooper and immediately slowing to the speed limit.
- 2. Community Outreach & Engagement - Matt Lewis (he/him/his) Matt is on leave, Robert provided his update.**
 - Due to timing and Agency schedules, the Committee decided to postpone a Fall/Holiday Happy Hour to late October/November. Details to follow.
 - Venue TBD (Shaw Tavern, Local Bowling Alley, Astro Beer Hall, etc.).
 - Hybrid format if at all possible. Definitely 1st choice is venue with A/V capable to allow for remote and virtual participation.
 - **National GLBTQ+ History Museum Project Update**
 - They are interested in partnering with us to store/archive some of GLOBE/PFS documents, artifacts, items etc.
 - Discussions are still ongoing and will continue again after the start of the fiscal year.
 - **Continued Outreach to Agency Pride Chapters**
 - Met with several Agencies to advise and provide guidance on Chapter operations, reorganizing, topical discussions and general questions.
- 3. Training and Summit Update – Val Johnson (she/her)**
 - Thank you for attending the September 27th Pride in Federal Service webinar on The Bisexual/Pansexual Experience! **If you attended, please complete a feedback survey here:** <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/277TH6L>
 - This session was recorded – you can watch it here:
https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/1Cuw3WNbqWkg6WQNN4v4clp5_CIZP1y_PF1AGde5fAOMMkqMTCiBVZUD0GXc3G_d.nZfJMUNPs8S3dtKk
Access Passcode: v@8AY9U=
Note: some agencies block access to Zoom; you may have to view from a personal device.
 - Here's the link for the slide deck:
<https://prezi.com/view/UKnMtHGjnGj5GjRzzZ07/>

- **Resources shared in Zoom chat:**

- i. Email signature link explaining the purpose of including pronouns: <https://pronouns.org/what-and-why/>
- ii. Find your pronouns, research, and context: <https://pronouns.page/>
- iii. USEPA pronoun site: <https://work.epa.gov/deia/gender-pronouns>
- iv. Allyship:
 1. <https://mylearning.nps.gov/library-resources/allies/>
 2. <https://www.nps.gov/orgs/1244/index.htm>
 3. <https://mylearning.nps.gov/groups/allies-for-inclusion/>
 4. <https://diversity.cornell.edu/our-community/staff-resources/lgbtq-staff-faculty/gender-inclusive-pronouns>

4. Policy Update - Nathan Harvey (he/him/his), PFS Policy Co-Chair.

- Thank you to Orien for the updated list of PFS members who are interested in policy. Nathan will reach out to them.
- The Policy Committee has developed health care policy recommendations that will be communicated to OPM to advance LGBTQIA+ employees. The six recommendations are:
 1. Reduce barriers to preauthorization
 2. Reduce barriers to care networks
 3. Reduce barriers to claim appeals
 4. Ensure consistent coverage of comprehensive gender affirming care
 5. Promote access to quality sexual health
 6. Promote access to family building benefits and services for LGBTQIA+ federal employees

5. Communications Update - Orien Richmond (he/him/his), Communications Director. Matt provided the update.

- Facebook Update – Matt Toland (he/him/his) We have re-launched the PFS Facebook group (link [here](#)) to provide more opportunities for connection and community building. If you are not a member, please request to join. Also, there was a backlog of posts waiting for approval, the most recent ones have been approved. All posts will be reviewed for compliance with Hatch Act, etc.
- PFS Logo Update – Matt Toland (he/him/his) – Happy to report we have more logo entries. The deadline closed on Sept. 30. We will soon be announcing the process for picking the logo, stay tuned. Thanks to Matt Lewis and Orien for working with me on the selection committee.

6. Data Collection & Metrics - Christina Dragon (she/her/hers)

- Christina is offering to present on “The science of SOGI measurement and data collection” to any ERGs that would like this presentation. Also, Christina offered to be a resource for any ERGs or agencies/offices who are looking to add sexual orientation and gender identity questions to any of the data collection tools, surveys, and forms.

- Reminder about the [RFI: Request for Information Federal Evidence Agenda on LGBTQI+ Equity](#)
- General updates on SOGI measurement and data, including reminder about the NASEM Report, [Measuring Sex, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation](#).

7. Open Forum / Q&A / Discussion

- Topics raised:
 - O&E
 - Escalating diversity and inclusion in agencies
 - Gendered language in Hispanic focus groups
 - Monkeypox: Last month, the FAA did a webinar with Dr Susan Northrop (Aviation Medicine) on Monkeypox. Here's the YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/gE6d0amGx9M>. It is available for people to view outside of a .gov network.