

Open Source Matters, Inc. Board Meeting Minutes - April 19, 2010

(approved by unanimous consent at board meeting: 17 May 2010)

Attendees: Robert Deutz, Dave Huelsmann, Ryan Ozimek, Jacques Rentzke, Elin Waring
Absent with Apology: Akarawuth Tamrareang, Steve Burge, Javier Gomez

I. Approval of previous meeting's minutes (Jacques Rentzke)

Jacques brings a motion to the floor for the approval of the previous meeting's Minutes. Motion seconded by Elin. Accepted by unanimous consent.

Review of OSM board of directors motions brought to the floor via the email list, please circulate list by email in advance (Jacques Rentzke)

No Motions via email since previous meeting.

II. Treasurer's report (Dave Huelsmann)

- Referring to the financial reports:
- Dave reports on the current financial status of OSM, including our income and expenses. The board discusses the current legal expenses.
- Dave announces that a new contractual sponsor has just been signed up: Hooduku
- A question is raised about an amount of \$29,000 that appears under Other Income, and Dave explains that this was a Tax Refund.

III. Old Business

1. Further discussion of the VP office (Jacques Rentzke)

- Jacques says that this has mostly been discussed via email already. He restates that a practical approach should be followed.
- Elin raises the issue of succession. It's not an emergency, but the by-laws may need amending to make this clear.
- Dave confirms again his opinion that it should be up to the President to have a VP. Also adds that we should look at amending the bylaws to make things clear regarding succession, or what would happen if one of the officers is incapacitated.
- Ryan requests that Dave be tasked to take this forward.

IV. New Business

1. Update on Major Event Down Under (Robert Deutz)

Robert ask for progress feedback

Ryan and Elin reports back that good progress is being made, mostly administrative at this stage. Elin provides further feedback on legal and tax considerations.

2. Liaisons and committees, brainstorming session (Ryan Ozimek)

- The board discusses the structures of the board and the committees.
- Elin and Dave shares some history on how the board and committees functioned in the past, and what was effective and what not.
- The important committees are the Budget (spending), Audit and Exco and Capital committees.
- Dave expresses the view that since we can conduct a lot of our business via email and Skype, we do not need to establish new committees.
- Elin explains history how Core team each was on a Committee. They now prefer that we deal with OSM business. Committees like the Licensing and Trademark never really functioned as a committee. We should only have a few small committees
- Ryan explains that it's less about managing people and committees, and more about roles and tasks. (liaisons)

- Jacques ask if we should not invite LT members or community members with specific skills to serve on the committees to make them more useful.
- Elin responded that the bylaws were previously amended to allow for this. If a committee feels they need someone, or see someone with expertise then they can do it, but she prefers a small agile team to get things done.

3. **Report-back from President on transition process into Presidency (Ryan Ozimek) [5 minutes]**

- Ryan reports back on the progress he's making on documenting procedures for transition of positions; Creation of Roles and Responsibilities documents; Introductory conversations with 9 OSM/LT members; Regular blog posts of updates from previous week's work; Meetings with legal counsel and the PR firm.
- He also speaks of delegating tasks, but only doing so once there's a clear documented roles and responsibilities for those tasks

4. **Improving internal communications (Ryan Ozimek)**

- Ryan raises the importance of always acting with utmost professionalism within, and outside of OSM.
- Jacques also suggests that we find out if language is a barrier in our communications

5. **Process forward with the proposed certificate of correction and certificate of amendment filings. (Jacques Rentzke)**

- The board discusses the proposed changes to OSM's charter, based on legal advice, and decides that we need to have a blog post that explains the reasoning for the changes, as well as the process, to the community, and allow for comment, so that any further questions or concerns can be addressed. Elin volunteers to write the blog.

V. **Reports from Committees**

- Robert is going to the Dutch Joomla Day. Doing a presentation
- Elin mentions that Robert and Angie have been doing great work on accessibility that will put us in the forefront.
- Dave introduces a discussion on the money we spend on protecting the trademark, since this is an important part of our budget.
- Elin provides an update on current trademark matters, and emphasizes the importance of trademark protection for regional communities
- Jacques asks if we could have a FAQ that would give some insight on what we spend our legal expenses on.
- Elin thinks it's a good idea to correct certain misconceptions.
- Ryan mentions that he will be posting a blog in this regard.

VI. **Celebrating Success**

- Jacques mentions that there have been a lot of positive actions from people like Steve and Robert and others to get the community involved. Thanking everyone's efforts in that regard.
- Ryan feels that we should take time to celebrate our successes:
 - Two new sponsors: Hooduku (developer sponsor), Coupons Dealuxe (community sponsor) (Ryan Ozimek)
 - Ask the Team - first session (Robert Deutz)
 - Most of the questions were answered. It was a success.
 - Cebit (Robert Deutz): Many people were there, and they will do it next year again.
- Elin suggests that we post a short blog on what we do.
- Jacques mentioned that we missing out on an opportunity to involve the International community, and suggests that people post their blogs in their own

language, and a copy of it in English. Would give an International feel to the main web site.

- Elin agrees, and feels that JUGs should also have a page in their own language. States that Joomla is much more international.
- Elin offers to raise the language question on the Community Working Group list.
- Jacques mentions that it does not have to be complicated to implement.

- Motion to adjourn brought by Ryan, and seconded by Elin, and accepted by unanimous consent.
- Meeting adjourned at 21:19

Next meeting: [May 17, 2010 - 20:00 UTC](#)