

OSHWAs board mtg February 28, 2017

Michael convenes mtg @ 11:05AM EST

Attending: Michael, Alicia, Joel, Addie, Matthias, Harris, Jeff

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1. Vote on minutes

Michael moves to approve the minutes from last meeting

Jeff seconds. Motion carried.

2. Update on financials (Harris) and D&O Insurance (Michael and Harris)

We are looking at getting insurance for OSHWA. Working with the firm called Benefits and Risk. We are waiting for quotes. The idea is to cover the Board and employees.

3. Employee Update (Alicia)

Alicia made us a 'Foreign Entity' to get an employee in Colorado. We have payroll setup and unemployment insurance. Caleb is our Community Manger. He is putting together an overview of his plan, and will present that when he is introduced to the Board. He is currently training and getting up to speed and meeting with Alicia on Tuesdays. He used to work with Aleph Objects. We will meet him

3. Update on Summit (Addie)

Mark your calendars for Oct 5th, at City Hall in Denver!

Date, and Venue have been decided. Addie is in contact with locals on the ground.

Announcement for speakers will go out soon.

Kelly is making the summit site, and we've moved back to Wordpress from Squarespace.

The site will be up and ready next week.

We've caught up on our timeline leading up to the Summit date.

We have already had large sponsors reaching out!

If anyone has ideas for speakers or keynote, we should send them to Addie.

Matthais offered the idea of workshops.

Jeff offered the idea of a Board camping trip.

4. Journal - yay or nay

Alicia outlines the Journal that is looking for stewardship. The biggest concern is about how much work this would mean for the Board. We could limit our contribution to server space. They are not quite up to speed yet, and it seems like it will go forward with or without our participation. It is complicated for us as an organization to partner with another, and we need to know much more about them as an organization and their mission, etc.

5. Discussion about making political statements as OSHWA.

Michael explains that the previous administration OSTP we got contacted and participated. They were very supportive of Open Source. The current administration has taken all of that endorsement of makers. The question is whether or not we should reach out to the current administration to advocate for open-source hardware? Do we have a role in the discussion? We need more information about the agenda of the new administration. Is it purposely aggressive to our community? In deciding this, we also need to make sure that we do not lobby, because we are not a 501c4. Nadia brought up a good point that since we are an international organization, we should perhaps focus on governments that do support Open Source and Makers. Jeff says that we should not be afraid of expressing our views in general regarding the things that we stand for and believe in.

Alicia relayed about being contacted by Adafruit asking us to retweet about the fact that Limor's picture and award was taken down, which is how this conversation got started. The board agrees that we need to have awareness and be ready to discuss participation if/when there is an appropriate event, or strategy that comes up that we want to respond to or participate with.

The conversation will continue on the list.

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Michael moves to end the board meeting, Addie Seconds. The motion carries.

adjourns the meeting @12:05EST