

OSHWA board meeting July 18, 2017

Michael convenes mtg @ 12:03AM EST

Attending: Michael, Addie, Louis, Joel, Alicia, Nadia, Jeff, Harris, Kat, Parasew

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1. Vote on minutes

Michael moves to approve the minutes from last meeting
Joel seconds. Motion carried.

2. Alicia Updates on the venue for Summit 2017.

Three days ago the representative from the event space notified us that construction will not be done until late October. They have about 11 event spaces, and they will try to move us into a space that is close to the hotel we are piling into. We expect to have this resolved this week or next.

3. Update on mini-summits (Nadya + Matthias)

Nadya reports that the organizational capacity to run a mimi even would be different than a full event, and so pulling off a mini summit would not be a good metric for pulling off a much larger event. Having open hardware events in general will be beneficial. We could post events on a calendar as a visibility increaser/general clearing house of events. Down the road, we could do more promotion, etc, but right now we don't have the bandwidth to manage that. Nadya has experience managing a conference in Shenzhen, and her insight and experience would increase confidence to do the international summit there.

Michael asks if we feel like we have on-the-ground partners who would be strong?

Nadya has contacts in Shenzhen including HAX and SEEED. Also maker spaces.

Joel floats the idea of having a mini summit in the US in conjunction with the international summit.

Jeff mentions that GOSH is thinking of Shenzhen as a location. Also getting GOSH and OSHWA together at each other's summit. Also offers the idea of Lima as a location.

4. Certification updates (Michael)

Michal will meet today with the NYU team that is upgrading the cert website. He has also connected with Duke university to collaborate on the educational component. We are up to 100 certifications! OSHWA should have a daily community outreach where we post, etc about companies. The concern with that is our policy commitment to being independent and not support individual companies. This is also part of our IRS rules we follow. This idea falls under the 'thanking sponsors at the summit' scenario.

Luis says that that we could tweet in parallel with our tweets thanking sponsors. With a link to our url to see the cert and learn more.

Harris mentions that the FSF does do promotion of Open Software products. He says that we should put up a table to showcase certified products at the Summit.

Luis says that FSF is particularly strict. They link to their own URL when they promote license partners. He also supports the idea of randomized product promotion at the Summit.

Michael asks to have Caleb put together a proposal that we could then look at and evaluate as a board.

Alicia mentions that sponsors not getting on the table would be miffed.

Harris offers the idea that we ask all of the certified companies to send us their product by arbitrary deadline.

5. Mission discussion (Alicia)

We have specifics in our mission that we are not necessarily doing. For example 'Doing things for social good' which can be misleading. The idea is to recalibrate the statement so that it is tighter and focused. Offer to remove the part about supporting social good. Also, now that we are a certifying body, we should have something to describe that. Alicia will send around a document to vote on.

6. Finance update / Member update (Harris)

We are moving our funds into Elevations from Wells Fargo. The move is not complete because we may run into something before the summit that might ding the Wells Fargo account. Harris thinks we should keep the Wells account at a minimum in case we have any issues with Elevations bank. Alicia says that we get wires via Wells, but Elevations does not do wires. This sounds prudent. We have 110 members signed up this year.

5. Sponsorship update for Summit (Luis)

Luis reports that we are meeting our target in a couple of weeks and will surpass our expected target amount of sponsorship money. Luis has started to engage every sponsor to get certified. There is a badge proposal from one of the sponsors that would have to be discussed with AutoDesk, who is doing the badge this year. Michael asks if we are in the position we want to be at this time. Addie says that we are a little bit behind from last year's sponsors. We expect to have a ton of people get tickets in the last month.

4. Alicia is sharing docs about International Summit and Social outreach stuff.

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

Meeting adjourned @1:04EST