General Assembly of BeVolunteer 2021

20th and 21th of November 2021 online

moderation: Thorgal67/ crumbking
Minutes: Corazondeviaje (& all)

participants Saturday (20.11.2021): 12 voting members + 1 guest
thorgal67, corazondeviaje, crumbking, amnesiac84, Leonardo(leoalone), gbenouville
(Gabriel), peterburk(Peter), Marstr(Guest), chagai95, shevek, Claudiaab, wind, jeanyves

participants Sunday (21.11.2021): 11 voting members + 1 guest
Leonardo, gbenouville, corazondeviaje, thorgal67, peterburk(Peter), crumbking,
amnesiac84, claudiaab, shevek, chagai95, wind, marstr (Guest)

====SATURDAY 20th November 2021====

09:00 - 09:30 - Meeting of participants

09:30 - 09:40 - Welcome

09:40 - 11:00 - Financial Report + Budget + Annual Report
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/211117_BV_Annual_Report-
2020-2021.pdf
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Financial_Statement-2020-
2021.pdf
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/Budget_Proposal-2021-2022.pdf

→ Financial report has been presented by Thorgal67.
Big donation from a former member led to a big total gain this term.
First time income from Spreadshirt has been noted - it is not a very great deal for BW,
maybe a task for the next BoD to find a better/ more Eco friendly company.
We are looking for alternatives to BitPay - which is giving us trouble (very beaurocratic).
Also a task for the next BoD (alternative that maybe not only accepts BitCoins but also
other cryptocurrencies).
Expenses (Banking Fees; Server Costs; PayPal costs; Insurance)
4324,60 Eur Total gain this year.

 → Budget Proposal 2021/22 – presented by Thorgal67
Regular costs presented,
What should be the planned income? 600 Euro proposed - just to let the members know
that we do not have any other financing source.
Budget proposal will be finalized after Sunday.
Voting for budget proposal: Monday

→ Annual Report 2020/21:
BoD report:
The gap between sent request and accepted/ replied requests - something to look into
next term.
Comment from Leoalone - after the influx of new members - the quality of requests he is

getting on BW has lowered significantly.

Gbenouville - Maybe a job for the NMBW Team; Maybe include something in the Automatic message; best practices for Hosting requests would be a good idea. Maybe a pop-up that can be easily switched in the future explaining how to write a good request; There will be a FAQ item on that too Gbenouville commented.

To be discussed in a thread in The BV forum.

Teams Presented:
    - Frontend/ Design
    - SysAdmins - activity has risen; new and old servers working in parallel (and it will continue for some months) - issue with OTRS migration/ closing.
    - Development Team;
    - Testing team - team has grown and did a good job for the 3 releases;
    - Communications - maybe more activity on Instagram (or setting up an account, if we don't have one yet)
    - Translations;
    - Spam checkers and Safety;
    - Support team - big trouble that there are now 2 tools (OTRS and Zammad) for training new volunteers (no-one really knows at this moment what will be the final solution)
    - Forum Moderators - hopes to set up a better group structure (topic from GA2020)
    - New Members BW Team - Greet members that put some effort into their profile; the Automatic message still expected (has not been implemented yet - hopefully a priority can be put on that)
    - Ombudsperson

11:15 - 11:30 - Coffee (or tea) break (or buffer time in case of delays)

11:30 - 13:00 - TOPIC 1 = Topic A: Open Hospitality Network:
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s23732-_GA2021Topic_AOpen_Hospitality_Network and
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s23121

Chagai95 participates in the initiative and summarized the idea – the initiators want to federate between hospitality exchange platforms (BW, WS, TR, Couchers, anything to come) - platform to exchange information between each other - map members of other platforms (all the platforms that would join); BW is welcome to join; Open Hospitality Network did not reach as they do not have things ready to offer - but they are open to discuss and talk what all participating platform would expect.

Chagai is doing a proof of concept if things are possible using 2 TR instances; Michael, Mariha, David (SysAdmin); trying to find how to share the data between specific platforms, concerning security/ privacy data.

Funding - https://nlnet.nl/ - if potentially some developer wanted to work for money - that would have to be discussed (money spent ticket based).

(https://nlnet.nl/foundation/network.html (includes Mozilla, Linux Foundation, FreeBSD Foundation))

Currently using TrustRouts framework for the proof of concept. Based on what that shows they may (would like to?) to make a protocol out of it.

There are different options to do technically (show only there are x members on the other platform and "please create a profile there"; or enabling members to talk over the other platform).

But the big obstacle can be the EU GDPR; also this is creating another website for people

to join - Response - there are some people that want to create their new page and the idea of the Open Hospitality Network is to embrace them all somewhere and at least ask if they are willing to talk to others

-> Is it how internet works? One stronger platform, few smaller platforms? Or a metasearch - does it work for social networks?

-> Privacy concern potential solution - ask users if they agree to share part of their data (radio button on the profile)

-> Important - Connect between TR and BW?

-> Would be great to see one day some host of other platforms (TR, couchers) in our member search by such a connection to OHN

-> EU GDPR issues can be addressed by asking permissions from our members

-> discussion is quite controversial and there are several views of the network

(OHN Telegram chat link for anyone interested = https://t.me/joinchat/bSRAq8EqivM4ZmZi)
OHN is working to be in a more advanced stage - then potentially involvement form BW would be needed - at this stage no tasks are on the BW site.

13:00 - 14:00 - Lunch break

14:00 - 14:50 - TOPIC 2 = Topic C (Structures and Procedures of BW/ BV/ BoD): https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s23734-_GA2021Topic_CStructures_and_procedures_of_BWBVBoD

It is not very clear now where the procedures are, what they are; Knowing them would be useful for the Forum Moderators - if the decisions is a team decision; or was/ needs to be approved by the BoD or GA.
Procedures are not well documented anywhere (apart from ToU and some legal documents)
E.g. someone joining Safety team - what rights should they have; creating polls - what are the rules; Sending a newsletter; translations;
-> Where to put it? - NextCloud? "possibility to give rights on documents" (downside - another external site - to which people need to be granted access).
Group wiki? too "open"
- could be a good way for Newbies to browse around
- challenge: make it easy, update regularly
- one of the initial BW principals was transparency - so the idea is not to too many documents we would like to hide form the general public. Also it can be challenging to some people interested in volunteering to create several further logins in other pages.
- BeVolunteer/ Wordpress? Something easy to use needs to be found.
- Limiting to particular group Wiki - for some things it may be not very practical; can search so well on groups Wiki
- List preferred basic tools to be used?
- Keep using the group Wiki to show basic information how it works (how a team works; how to join); more technical procedures or that need rights - use NextCloud
-> Procedures - what are decisions to be taken by the team internally; what should be discussed in BV forum; what should be decided by the BoD and what by GA - > Next term BoD to contact all the team and ask them about their procedures and what are they missing; Could potentially link form Group Wikis to NextCloud (if shared or with info whom to contact to get rights assign)
-> Question - whom should be granted NextCloud rights and what if something changes in a particular team (someone leaves; someone becomes an admin); whom to contact to get

certain rights?
- It is possible to make groups with rights on NextCloud (Marstr)
-> Discussion should be started with team coordinators what procedures are needed; needs to be know how grant rights and which rights are needed, who can get them, under what conditions; what conditions are needed to join a team (in some cases it is clear for some teams, in others it is not - make the conditions easy to find; challenge will be writing the procedures;
- which people need to sign an NDA is also important

14:50 - 15:30 - Coffee (or tea) break (or buffer time in case of delays)

15:30 - 16:00 - Who wants to be a candidate for BoD? Explain the BoD job more in detail.

Currently one (2) candidates: thorgal67 and gbenouville

====SUNDAY 21st November 2021====

09:30 - 10:45 - TOPIC 3 = Topic D+E (Additional Tech GAs during the year + More topics discussion prior to GA + GA dedicated more to official part and guest):
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s23735-
_GA2021Topic_DAdditionalminiGAs_during_the_year_dedicated_to_technical_matters_
and
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s23736-
_GA2021Topic_EDiscuss_topics_more_before_the_GA_and_have_GA_dedicated_more_t
o_the_official_part_meeting_maybe_guest

Leoalone suggests 2 additional GAs - one technical; one maybe to talk about administration topics - potentially organize in different places. Currently the single GA half of it being purely bureaucratic topics.
Crumbking - currently one GA is quite compressed, packed with a lot of topics - even if announced in advance some people may not want to participate in the official parts (Annual Report, BoD candidates) - that can make GA not so attractive to volunteers/ BeVolunteers - idea is to have topics discussed in more time - not just 1-2 weeks before the GA - maybe since July - and try to come out with voting proposals.
GA - per the status needs to be called at least one month in advance and there needs to be a minimum of voting members participating.
Maybe an idea is to have unconferences/ hackatons (for technical stuff) and some other meeting for administrative purposes/ meeting purposes.
-> Organizing extra GA - not compulsory but can be requested as need arises? (if a voting decision is needed)
-> Claudiaab - topics requested by Leo would rather be idea for an unconference - if there is anything to vote upon as the result - this can be decided by BoD
- it may get quite frustrating for the BV members if they get bombarded every 3-4 months with invitations for additional GAs.
Rather organize an unconference or a BV cafe and if a result appears that needs an official voting (can't be decided by the BoD solely) then an eGA must be called.

Do you think this topic (having additional GAs) needs to have an official vote? (8-)

Additional wording from leoalone's proposal

Leonardo:10:37 "The GA mandate the BoD to have on 2022 the oGA of november only online and reserved for the obligatory topics; and organizing at least one eGA during the year for other topics, to favour the participation of BW members; Members are welcome to organize meeting [unconferences] during the year, and the board will be ready to indict without delay an eGA in case would arise the need for a vote"

Do we need to vote on this? (7-)

Topic E:
Have GA prepared a little earlier - start gathering topics earlier (maybe also make this for all BW member) - maybe not all topics - but e.g. Open Hospitality Network would be interesting to find BW members opinion

11:00 - 11:15 - Coffee (or tea) break (or buffer time in case of delays)

11:15 - 12:45 - TOPIC 4 = Topic F (Setting up a decision database):
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s23737-
_GA2021Topic_FSetting_up_a_decision_database

Amnesiac84 explains: There was a decision making tool where each member of BW could add some requests (https://www.bewelcome.org/wiki/Suggestions) - the tool got lost, and so did the decisions - same as BoD or previous GAs decisions get lost over time - so it would be good to have them stored all in one place to know what was decided and when (and maybe also some reasoning behind) - not to discuss it over and over again - or maybe be able to say that circumstances have changed and we need/ should discuss that again.
Both technical as well as BoD decisions (e.g. also important decisions from the treasurer)
→ What decisions should we include and who should be able to write them and read them?
→ Start with official decisions from the past of the GAs and BoD (including maybe a thread link where the discussion happened) - for future BV members to check.
Shell we vote only on principal to have it or also on how to do it (what tool)? Wiki? Excel on next cloud (accessible to the BV members)?
No vote necessary per the common agreement.
→ It was agreed that the BoD would initiate the task to store somewhere the procedures and to initiate the decisions database. What kind of decisions should be put up - who should be responsible? BoD? Common effort?
If there is a process behind the decision in the future - it should be documented.
The idea is to start maybe with new decisions to be documented immediately and then document the previous decisions as time allows.

12:45 - 13:45 - Lunch break

13:45 - 15:00 - Proposals to be voted upon - wording

Please vote now for the following proposal: use +1, -1 or 0

a) After reaching our donation goal, we should inform our members that we have reached the goal, and that they are welcome to donate to non-profit organisations that provide services to BW/BV and that are listed on a wiki page (7+)

b) After reaching our donation goal, we should inform our members that a percentage of the surplus can be donated by BeWelcome to non-profit organisations that provide services to BW/BV and that are listed on a wiki page (3+, 3-)

Poll #1 : [GA2021-01] Annual Report 2020-2021

Please find the BV Annual Report 2020-2021 HERE

Question: Do you approve the BV Annual Report 2020-2021?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 22 votes; NO – 0 votes; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

Poll #2: [GA2021-02] Financial Statement 2020-2021

Please find the BV Financial Statement 2020-2021 HERE

Question: Do you approve the BV Financial Statement 2020-2021?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 22 votes; NO – 0 votes; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

Poll #3: [GA2021-03] BV Budget 2021-2022

Please find the BV Budget 2020-2021 HERE

Question: Do you approve the BV Budget 2021-2022?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 21 votes; NO – 0 votes; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

Poll #4 [GA2021-04] Do you elect wind as ombudsman?

Question: Do you elect wind as ombudsman?

YES

NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 18 votes; NO – 2 votes; I ABSTAIN – 2 votes

Poll #5 [GA2021-05] Do you elect thorgal67 to the BoD?

Question: Do you elect thorgal67 to the BoD?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 21 votes; NO – 1 vote; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

[GA2021-06] Do you elect gbenouville to the BoD?

Question: Do you elect gbenouville to the BoD?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 21 votes; NO – 1 vote; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

[GA2021-07] Do you elect peterburk to the BoD?

Question: Do you elect peterburk to the BoD?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 20 votes; NO – 1 vote; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

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https://www.bewelcome.org/group/2981

[GA2021-08] Co-operation with Open Hospitality Network

The Open Hospitality Network (OHN) is a project that would make it possible (amongst other features) to show members from multiple open hospitality networks on one page. If accepted, the BoD will contact OHN to tell them BW may be interested in co-operation

Question: Do you mandate the BoD to contact OHN and inform them that BW may be interested in co-operation?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 18 votes; NO – 3 votes; I ABSTAIN – 1 vote

Question:

For the other topics discussed at the GA, do we need a vote? Please put +1 if you think we need a vote, -1 if you think a vote is not necessary, and 0 if you have no opinion or are indifferent
If a topic gets a majority of votes for inclusion in the polls, we can then discuss the wording

From what is understood during the GA, no other topics needed a vote.

Thorgal67 asked about the state of Trips feature - Shevek informs that there is a lot finished ready (aside form small bugs) to start testing soon on Beta - and hopefully it would be ready within some months.

Donations for other providers (of free services) - it should be changed in wording if we would donate to others on the donation page - otherwise maybe put information on the donation page please consider donating money to any of those organizations that provide us with free services (Framapad? OpenMaps?)

15:00 - 15:15 - Coffee (or tea) break (or buffer time in case of delays)

15:15 - 16:00 - Introduction of & Questions to BoD candidates / Ombudsperson
Candidates Thorgal67, Gbenouville and Peterburk presented themselves briefly and replied questions.