

General Assembly of BeVolunteer 2022

5th and 6th of November 2022 in person in Wieliczka, Poland and online

moderation: Gbenouville/ Thorgal67

Minutes: Thorgal67/ Peterburk

Attendees on Saturday (05.11.2022): 13 voting members+ 5 guests: gbenouville,thorgal67, Peterburk, corazondeviaje, duesseldorf, shevek, daucus, Polyglot, sammiekong, wind, claudiaab, leonidasz, cristee, alexjandro, subaculture
non-BV members: Chingl, pauloaguia, blackfalconx

participants Sunday (06.11.2022): 12 voting members + 3 guests
wind, peterburk, sammiekong, daucus, leonidasz, gbenouville, thorgal67, corazondeviaje, duesseldorf, shevek, Polyglot, cristee, subaculture
non-BV members: pauloaguia, Chingl

====SATURDAY 5th November 2022====

09:00 - 09:30 - Meeting of participants

09:30 - 09:40 - Official Welcome

Introduction by gbenouville. GA lasts 2 days, follow topics that are most interesting.
Schedule on Wiki. Yesterday's Activity in a bar, met other BW members from Poland.

09:40 - 11:00 - Financial Report + Budget + Annual Report

https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/Financial_Statement-2021-2022-Final.pdf

1 Oct 2021 - 30 Sep 2022. Received 1081€ donations, 600€ budgeted. Most donated into bank account, quite a lot through PayPal. BitPay needs VAT number, next year's treasurer to look into alternatives.

Server costs higher due to second server for OTRS. Domain good until 2028. PayPal take a 3.4% fee on donations, while banking fee are independent from the amount received.

Insurance to French authorities cost 127.5€. Loss of 1779.49€. Current assets 12985.27€.

Dates of donations correlate with newsletter: a peak in donations was observed after sending the newsletter mentioning the donation campaign.

Budget proposal: support to Events, last year nobody asked. Ask the next BoD to push that support. 4911.50€ costs. Budget deficit with donation goal of 3600€. Server costs should go down, migration will happen one by one instead of running servers in parallel.

Hetzner are server provider.

Next year: renew trademark for 530€.

Original proposal: Donation goal set to 3600€.

First proposal: Set donation goal to the real budget cost, it's OK if we don't get it. Donation bar visible all year.

Second proposal: Set target to expenses - 1/2 server costs.

EU charity support, more potential income.

Vote about the donations: please put your name behind the proposal that suits you more

1. 3600 euro donations : 4+
2. 4911,50 euro donations: 8+
3. less than 3600 : 0

Annual Report

https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/BV_Annual_Report_2021-2022-Proposal-final.pdf

logging in % increased since 2018.

Trips to be mentioned in next newsletter.

New BoD members warmly encouraged to run.

OTRS used for safety team, trouble transferring old to new software Zammad. Losing the safety history is an issue for the safety team. Need to have complaints ticket history.

8 to 10 tickets per day, 3 spam.

safety team 3 to 4 tickets per day.

Looking for more development and design volunteers.

BV website down, issues with contact form. Martin sysadmin quite busy this year, hopefully smoother next year if new team members can take on more responsibilities.

48 BV members, 32 eligible to vote.

New members take time to learn how systems work, ongoing process.

No sysadmins section in Annual Report.

No design team now, design done by developers.

Communications team has 2 new members.

There is a strategy for communications to not look like spam.

Translations team cleanup, 86 -> about 50 remaining.

9 languages are 100% translated, +2 compared to previous year. 4 new languages being translated on beta. Language suggestions for development.

Spam checkers active daily, checking new signups. Safety team had a lot of work this year due to travelling starting again. Informal networking with CS. Note: STmembers can only view reported messages. Public posts are Forum Moderation team.

Most work for Forum Moderation is approving new groups.

Activity moderation is quite easy, only spam filtering.

7 active members in Support team, 2 new.

New Member BeWelcome Team: 15 members, only 2 or 3 actively greeting. 60,000 new members, impossible to contact them all. Drafted an automatic greeting.

polyglot: check draft of new automatic member greeting before it goes to translation.

Ombudsman: rules followed, discussion on forum. Introduced in 2014, 3 or 4 people in that position, but only 3 cases brought. Visibility of ombudsperson role to increase. Most issues solved between members.

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

11:15 - 12:30 - TOPIC 1 Communication around trips and activities / Adjustments to the Trips feature

We would like to discuss how to increase the visibility of the Trips and Activities Features

https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s25850-_GA2022Topic_A_Communication_around_trips_and_activities

Suggestion: create some kind of automatic NewsLetter (NL) to send it to members with a list of members who are coming to your area

- Opt-in to people who have subscribed to "Local Newsletter = YES"
- Community News
- Make some kind of new type of "events" for 'trip features'
- Daucus : make it more visible, add a feature to hide some trips and events from your list (adding a check box to set as "read")
- Daucus: suggests only to distinguish between "live/on premise" and "online" events/activities and to add a "recurrence" so that it does not appear on the "multiple-day" event list.

In very popular destinations there might be an "overload" in trips

we have to find a balance between areas that get too many request and those who do not get almost any

Local Newsletter: event organizers do not know about the possibility to create local newsletters

Subaculture: we need to have additional features for Event Organizers

Alejandro: meetings for more than one day: suggestion to add a list with an overview to enable travelers to make detours to attend those gatherings. Alejandro specifies he is talking about CONSECUTIVE days. 1+

Suggestion: the Activity Moderators should be able to monitor this and make it appear in the "multiple day event" list.

Shevek: "recurrence" is a popular request, but currently it is difficult to implement. Daucus disagrees, and says you only need to select a periodicity.

Polyglot: weekly and daily should be enough

thorgal67: a digest is the only one necessary, since you would get the daily and weekly trips

thorgal67: is there a way to display some basic information about the activity (externally) without forcing people to log into BW/create a profile on BW

polyglot: It is not easy to look for activities further away without going through the menu.

Shevek: one line of code, he will take care of it now.

Frequency of newsletter: how often? Not wise to trigger a newsletter every time there is a new trip

Should we let the users set it themselves? Daucus wants a message every time a new trip in his region is created, no: all notifications for new creation should be batched once a day. And this note is not for me, but to avoid "hunting" of visitors, so giving a grace period from random lookers.

Sammiekong: make trips and activities more visible : internal visibility: when opening the BW website we should have a new trip pop-up (see : "you have a new message" - "you have a new visitor coming into your area", "there are X activities near you".

Duesseldorf: using a 'search' page - would it be possible to add another layer of search options on the map search?

Gbenouville: it would be good to have a link in the search tool where you can see a list of activities in the area.

Activities : we should promote this (gbenouville)

Polyglot: use the same type of notifications we have for trips/... (opt-in)+1 +1

Daucus: option to "promote/advertise" your activities

gbenouville: another thing: how do we get people to create more activities/events : we should push this more.

is "activities" confusing, should it be "events".?

Leonadisz : if we use different "terms" because of other websites, we should be consistent

Sammiekong: how to promote activities = not necessarily create more activities, but make it more visible. Priority to make this more visible = option for Local NewsLetter.

Activity creator should take responsibility and promote their activity = this is discouraging

If too many people attend a "limited" event, there might be also a problem

Possibility for the creator to limit the number of people in the description

12:30 - 13:30 - Lunch break

13:30 - 15:00 - TOPIC 2 Development and sysadmin priorities

This topic is to discuss and order our priorities regarding site development and server administration.

https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s25851-_GA2022Topic_B_Developpement_and_sysadmin_priorities

Development is not only adding new features, but there is testing, research, coding, bug-fixing,

Development features

- revision of profiles: this is currently in progress

- revision of Groups/Forum : this will be the next project

Both revisions need 3/4 of a year (optimistically)

Wind: can we take something "in between" the revision of profiles and groups?

- Trip/events newsletters (notifications about trips & activities)

This needs 2-3 months

- reply rate

- comment reminders: this should be a higher priority (takes 2 weeks' coding) but maybe this needs a passwordless login which would make it take longer

Daucus:why? it is a cron feature run by the system.

Debate: Should there be a friendly reminder/blocking action/... : general consensus points to friendly reminder

Suggestion from BlackFalconx: if you stay with many hosts, the reminders become more frequent

BlackFalconx also suggested using templates. And have the option "i want to leave a comment later" or "i do not want to leave a comment"

Some people fear this might reduce the quality of the comments.
Paulo thinks the value of comments is reduced by standard templates
Polyglot: show how many comments you have "outstanding"

Shevek: send a digest so previous outstanding reminders always appear with the new digest

- code documentation: no one volunteering to do it (shevek probably the only one who could, finds this useless and time-consuming)
- Open API: no one volunteering to do it
- add the icon of "Visitors near me" with a number indicating how many visitor are around, clicking on it will take us to the visitors page - also an icon of activities with number indicating how many activities are nearby

Suggestion: setting priorities to

1. Comments reminder
2. Profile revision
3. Trip & activities notification
4. Groups & Forum revision
5. Reply rate

4+

contacts list: to be discussed how to implement it
"friend list" as FB: not to be encouraged
profile notes to be used to keep a reminder of profiles

Daucus : Suggestion: allow in search member by name to type a part of name, but once you typed, if the correct name does not appear, show the options also for «like '%string%'» not only for «like 'string%'»

SysAdmin features

- Upgrade OTRS or migrate to a different system
- Set up the new servers
- Automate a script to send server logs to Matomo
- Reclaim Google knowledge panel

BlackFalconX has been on the team for approximately 6 months.

Migration: not easy and not always successful

For future: only migrate on a need-to basis

Create smaller servers to run specific features/programmes/services: this will speed the migration, is also safer

HETZNER offers small cloud servers

Project Management is import, documentation collection, etc..

- BeVolunteer will be moved to another server
- Mail server is causing issues, this should be moved also to another server
- BeWelcome is the last one to move before starting the migration of OTRS/alternatives

We agreed to continue investigating the upgrade/migrate of OTRS/Zammad/OTOBO.

Maybe first upgrading OTRS to version 6 might make it easier to migrate to Zammad or OTOBO

Progressive web app (PWA) for iOS and iPadOS: Shevek has access to the BW developer account and will try to create one and put it in the Apple Store

15:00 - 15:30 - Coffee break (or buffer time in case of delays)

15:30 - 16:30 - TOPIC 3 Moderation rules and sexual groups

https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s25852-_GA2022Topic_C_Moderation_rules_and_sexual_groups

Identified sex-oriented groups:

Cocksurfing members

Couch Wankers

Masturbators

BDSM

Swingers

SEX <3

Polyamory

naked sleepers

massage exchange group was probably founded for "fair" purposes but has been hijacked by sexual predators but has no active admin.

Do we give a mandate to the moderations team to delete those groups?

how to delete the groups: delete all data from the DB, or just hide the groups?

does ST need to keep the history of group members?

Claudiaab: Suggestion to document the groups (members,...) but not give a warning

Other suggestion to archive the group first, then give the members a short period to download their forum posts before permanently deleting

shevek: groups can be "unapproved"

Johannes: please inform BV that groups were deleted

Suggestion by Polyglot:

a) have a vote on the 7 groups

b) have a vote on the principle that Forum Moderators can take action if a group is hijacked to find sexual partners

c) a separate vote for naked sleepers? = wind says that a vote on this will be valid for one year until the next GA and can neither be ignored by the BoD nor by any volunteer teams

Leo suggests making a distinction between groups that have a group admin and groups that do not have an active admin (group with an active and responding owner get only a

warning, other go to the process of archiving)
Anyone in support?

Chingl: warns of backlash from these users who will try to mobilize press against this move (is the same i told ...)
Duesseldorf as spokesperson feels ready to handle this

Suggested wording for the Polls:

1) Do you agree to remove the following groups that serve the purpose of finding sexual partners in violation of article 4.9 of the terms of use?

Cocksurfing members
Couch Wankers
Masturbators
BDSM
Swingers
SEX <3
Polyamory

Options:

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

2) Do you give the Forum Moderators the mandate to remove groups that serve the purpose of finding sexual partners in violation of article 4.9 of the terms of use?

The forum moderators need to inform BeVolunteer members about any removal.

Options:

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Gbenouville raises another suggestion:

Proposes addition to the forum rules:

Please do not use the forum for hosting offers. Hosting requests published on the forum should rather be answered by private message, and spontaneous offers on the forum should be avoided.+1 (I proposed in the forum)

Shall we vote about this? Please put your vote here below

Yes, let's vote: 1,5+

No, let's not vote (yet): 7+

If the situation changes and the forum moderators have more work in the future the BoD can always adapt the forum moderation rules. No GA vote is required for this.

16:30 - 17:00 - Who wants to be a candidate for the BoD? Explain the BoD job more in

detail.

====SUNDAY 6th November 2022====

09:30 - 10:45 - TOPIC 4 BW communication strategy

<https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s25853>

Discuss the wording, vote on the tagline.

A) Strategy and results:

what worked and didn't in the past

Tagline and positioning - vote on it

B) Communication campaigns/activities

C) Ideas on how to attract (and keep more motivated) volunteers

A) Tagline and positioning are the basis for other communication

- Objective: more members being more active on BW and more satisfied with BW
- Largest free hospex platform & fast growth in past year: approx. 50k new members.
- CS paywall and dissatisfaction driving most of the new members

but other platforms like Couchers are growing and look to be more active: why did some people find Couchers instead of BW

Couchers and BeWelcome similar in activity on Reddit

- No significant differentiation to Couchers, TrustRoots.

• Positioning: what BW does, what value does it bring, how it is different.

• Tagline: Helps communicate positioning and makes it visible, different to slogan.

Slogan: Open your door to the world

We keep the slogan but need a tagline in addition, which is more factual

Consider what people are asking as part of a conversation, how they are using language of the tagline.

Goals: address questions: what BW is, suitable for CS refugees, how it is different.

Tagline: BeWelcome - The largest free hospitality exchange community

Positioning: Join the largest free hospitality exchange community

Subculture: using the word "couchsurfing" no issue by now, people are used to it

Chingl: statistics?

Cristee: No statistical data research done on the exact "market share" or user feeling of CS/BW/Couchers...

"Largest" is not to brag, but to advertise that it's easier to find hosts.

Polyglot: question whether to recruit CS refugees, or recruit those who never heard. 2 different strategies for target groups. Hospitality exchange, no one precise word that translates. Would simplify to "BeWelcome - Your door to the world".

Cristee: want to recruit both CS refugees and newcomers. Core positioning shared on website, address all these audiences. For the next 2 years, focus on exodus from CS. For university groups, focus on core.

There can be communication campaigns targeted to different audiences, but the website is the same for all

duesseldorf: definition of our existence has evolved, open-source, volunteer-based, defined via CouchSurfing. Now people coming to BW.

shevek: couchsurfing is a word used in Merriam-Webster to describe hospitality exchange. So using the word is no endorsement of them

wind: not fear to use the word couchsurfing, not oppose the other ones.

polyglot: what is our recruitment strategy? continue to recruit CS refugees, or newcomers.
Couchers is 503c non-profit

wind: most new BW are CS refugees, small % of newcomers.

polyglot: Couchers ambitions involve paid staff.

duesseldorf: second-profile couchsurfers will change in 2 years

cristee: will slow down, talk in their language, and welcome them

subaculture: people who find us through helpx, workaway, interrail. open-source, democratic are minority.

keywords like opensource, democratic... don't get much traction

Paulo: the people coming from CS are already finding us, will it still be relevant to target them in 2 years? We must define our strategy for more than the next 2 years

it takes time to implement this through development, communication.

cristee: 18k people on Couchers implies that BeWelcome aren't doing well.

thorgal67: started against HospitalityClub.

BW needs more vocal people on Reddit, social networks, etc: we were more active in this respect at the start of BW after splitting from HC

Leonidasz: 50k new members on BW, double profiles (since couchers appeared also)?

Globally there won't be so many platforms, 2-3 successful platforms.

Richard: Couchers engage in negative brand recognition against CouchSurfing™.

thorgal67: avoid being against somebody

polyglot: early members already in all hospitality exchange communities. People reserve usernames without being active users. Define communication and features that are offered.

e.g. Hangouts. Depending on the people we target, we may need to steer development differently: i.e if we target CS members, they'll ask for hangouts

a brief research in our database shows: 14.591 profiles mention Couchsurfing, 1158

Couch surfing, 96 Couchers, 418 Trustroots or Trust roots

duesseldorf: the meaningfulness of encounters, different topics in kitchen to pub.

cristee: no need to differentiate just for the sake of it (events/activities). If users want Hangouts, allow that.

duesseldorf: prioritise overnight stays.

wind: chat tool with mattermost, discussed with BoD whether to promote the chat to all. GDPR issues, and moderation for the chat.

duesseldorf: tried to promote a permanent video jitsi room during COVID, didn't work because it wasn't widely promoted on BW. Those taking place were nice pub-like talks.

polyglot: CS had critical mass for Hangouts

gbenouville: lower critical mass needed for Trips

Subaculture: maybe have a townhall meeting (monthly) like Couchers

thorgal67: vote on the tagline?

cristee: vote on it in 1 month

thorgal67: BV is slow, but results do come

cristee: "the largest free hospitality exchange community", "the largest free couchsurfing community"

cristee: what we put on the website, because everyone ends up there.

duesseldorf: if they come to the website, we've already won.

cristee: still takes time to create account, word of mouth slowed without promotional material.

Proposal: put up a poll with mutually exclusive options

4 options: tagline 1, tagline 2, agree with both taglines, abstain ??? need a 5th option, disagree with both.

daucus: we should plan an eGA later this year about this

Wind: better to vote now, otherwise no decision will be made (the eGA would be for details, now we vote to do something and to decide at beginning of february)

subaculture: yes, let's vote on something now

polyglot: vote on something, not contradiction to not use couchsurfing in the description.

10:45 - 11:00 - Coffee break (or buffer time in case of delays)

11:00 - 11:30 - TOPIC 5 Rotation of moderators and ST

https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s25854-_GA2022__Topic_E___Rotation_of_moderators_and_ST

Daucus wants to suggest a new way to have new members in the Safety Team and Moderators Team

Daucus: not a personal attack on specific people. He feels the ST or MT acted in the past in a traditional way.

Present situation: The new members need to be approved by current team members with a veto right for each member. There is a maximum number of team members, meaning new members can't step in.

Proposal: wants one-third of the team has to be approved by the General Assembly and replace the ones present since the longest time to remove the impression that BW is "static".

If you don't find new people, they do not have to be removed.

Wind: For Safety Team you need experienced people who have knowledge of the past. It is difficult to find new members who want to take on this job with lots of responsibility.

Also for Moderation Team: Some volunteers stay on because there are no new applications

Wind also hopes that this topic does not come up every 6 month

Corazondeviaja agrees with Wind, and it is already difficult to find volunteers for such a big job, so it makes it even a bigger hurdle for new volunteers.

Gbenouville says this is a theoretical discussion, because this situation (a new applicant to the team being refused by current members) has not happened before.

For any team: there are requirements and the team decides. No need to create new rules.

Thorgal67: If somebody feels their application is not considered seriously, they can complain to BoD/Ombudsperson or even GA

Sammiekong: Daucus has been complaining about Safety Team and Moderation Team many times in the past. Why only these two teams? Is it a personal issue?

Talking from the point of view for MT: we just implement the Forum Rules, there is no "power game".

The team would have problems functioning if there are strict rules regarding rotation.

Rotation removes the "experience" from the team.

We have not received any applications for a long time.

Daucus: explains why he targets ST and FM: because these teams are the only team that have an impact on member profiles (can ban or suspend members)

Also the only teams that need approval from all team members

If there is no new application, the "retiring" members should re-apply

Subaculture: it is not true that ST and MT are the only teams that refuse membership
(Support members also have rights to change a profile's status)

Gbenouville: it is not true that ST and MT have a maximum limit

There are other teams where the Team Coordinator has the power to refuse an application

We have a formal process, and refused applicants can always complain

Suggestion from gbenouville: Maybe forum moderators should change the way an application is approved (at the moment all forum moderators need to agree, maybe it's better to have a majority agreement)

Proposal from daucus:

Every year the two most senior team members end their term and two more are elected to replace them.

The ones who have ended their term can run again, but to prevail over a "virgin" applicant (one who has not been part of the team within the last three years) they must get at least twice the same number of votes. The vote is made by selecting one or zero names from the list of candidates.

In case some team members resign during the term, new members, chosen among previous applicants, may be appointed without vote.

11:30 - 12:30 - TOPIC 6 Volunteer code of conduct and case of daucus

https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s25855-_GA2022__Topic_F__Volunteer_code_of_conduct_and_case_of_daucus

Several BV members have complained (in the past and also this year) about Daucus.

Shevek: if we have a code of conduct, then we should implement it or remove it

On the personal case of daucus: Shevek is fed up with Daucus' behaviour

Wind: one time breaking the code of conduct should not lead to exclusion

thorgal67: if there is a breach of the code of conduct, it should be reported to BV and the BoD and voted upon. This is the way to decide if it's serious enough for removal of membership.

Gbenouville: upon joining a team the new volunteers are shown the Code of Conduct

Wind: we should not rely on it too much, just point new BV members to the CoC

Proposal: remove the line in the code of conduct about the fact that it is not binding: 8+

Daucus defence: he is from Firenze, he admits he was sarcastic. People from Firenze are known for being impulsive, can fight over something and then have a drink together.

He also says that he is not the only one being "close to being rude"

You have to consider the environment where the people are living. It is quite common have a different attitude. There has been an increase of aggressive behaviour online

We should take that into account what happened in 2020, 2021 and beginning of 2022 in outside world.

Thorgal67 asked to respond to 3 specific cases of possible racist and insulting behaviour

Daucus defends:

a) it was not a personal accusation, just a general accusation about people from this

specific country. The culture of China could be incompatible with moderation job.

b) never gave accusations to specific people. This is factually wrong. He wrote on the forum that a specific volunteer was a "bigot", even after explaining to daucus the meaning of the word and the value of the insult.

Polyglot: some of the worst remarks were made in the topic about his BV membership. He still hasn't gotten the message and still defends his conduct as normal for where he comes from.

some statements WERE targeted at a specific person

online behaviour by daucus not acceptable, demotivating volunteers, he should keep to hosting where he is much appreciated

Wind: small improvement recently but still a lot of time and energy wasted on daucus' comments

volunteering still possible for daucus even without BV membership

could still attend future GAs

Sammiekong: was personally attacked because of being Chinese

any meaningful discussion ruined by daucus by not accepting contrary opinions

Daucus: volunteering without being a member means having the same interactions but can't vote it's profiting from his skills without letting him take part in decisions

thorgal67: the question now is only about BV membership, BeWelcome membership is subject to the terms of use and forum rules.

Daucus: he promises not to attack other volunteers, but he asks in exchange that other members do not display the same attitude towards him.

Daucus repeats he has not anything against specific people. He asks for mutual trust

12:30 - 13:30 - Lunch break

13:30- 14:15 - TOPIC 7 Imposed Bed Sharing

https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s26166-GA_2022_Topic_G_Imposed_Bed_Sharing

Because of the increase in reported abuse (hosts demanding guests share their bed) the Safety Team suggests to add two sentences to article 4.9 of the Terms of Use that would allow to issue warnings, and to ban members who take advantage of low-budget travelers who rely on free accommodation:

Current article 4.9

The following are some examples of what you agree NOT to do on BeWelcome:

9. use our services for the purpose of finding sexual partners.

Amended article 4.9 (version a)

The following are some examples of what you agree NOT to do on BeWelcome:

9. use our services for the purpose of finding sexual partners. In particular this means that personal space must be respected and that hosts must never impose a shared sleeping surface. Hosts must allow their guests to sleep on a separate sleeping surface, which may

simply be space on the floor if this is clearly agreed at the time the hosting is agreed;
8+

Amended article 4.9 (version b)

The following are some examples of what you agree NOT to do on BeWelcome:

9. use our services for the purpose of finding sexual partners. In particular this means that personal space must be respected and that hosts must never impose a shared sleeping surface. Hosts must allow their guests to sleep on a separate sleeping surface, which may simply be space on the floor if this is clearly agreed at the time the hosting is offered;

3+

Polyglot explains that at the moment that they AGREE, the conditions need to be clear. By disallowing IMPOSED bed sharing in our ToU, it is clear for everybody. (and daucus said that it should be known when hosting was offered, not when people had already made some steps toward arrangement, because it would be too late to find an alternative opportunity, so specifying that only accommodation would be floor)

14:15 - 14:45 - Proposals to be voted upon - finalize wording

Wording already agreed on:

Poll # : Topic 3: Moderation rules and sexual groups

Wording to be agreed upon

Poll # 1 : [GA2022-01] Annual Report 2021-2022

Do you approve the BV Annual Report 2021-2022?

Please find the BV Annual Report 2021-2022 [HERE](#)

I Abstain

YES

NO

RESULT: YES – 23 votes; NO – 0 votes; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

Poll #2 : [GA2022-02] Financial Statement 2021-2022

Do you approve the BV Financial Statement 2021-2022?

Please find the BV Financial Statement 2021-2022 [HERE](#)

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

Poll #3: [GA2022-03] BV Budget 2022-2023

Do you approve the BV Budget 2022-2023?

Please find the BV Budget 2022-2023 [HERE](#)

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

Poll #4:

Do you vote to terminate the BeVolunteer membership of daucus?

Please find the discussion [Here](#).

YES

NO

I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 18 votes; NO – 0 votes; I ABSTAIN – 4 votes

Poll #5: [GA2022-05] Do you elect wind as ombudsperson?

YES

NO

I ABSTAIN

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

Poll #6: [GA2022-06] Do you elect daucus as ombudsperson?

YES

NO

I ABSTAIN

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

Poll #7 [GA2022-06] Do you elect thorgal67 to the BoD?

YES

NO

I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 22 votes; NO – 1 votes; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

Poll #8 : [GA2022-07] Do you elect gbenouville to the BoD?

YES

NO

I ABSTAIN

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

Poll #9: [GA2022-07] Do you elect corazondeviaje to the BoD

Yes

No

I Abstain

RESULT: YES – 22 votes; NO – 0 votes; I ABSTAIN – 1 votes

Poll #10: Imposed Bed Sharing

Do you agree to amend article 4.9 of the terms of use as follows? Please find the discussion [HERE](#).

Current article 4.9

The following are some examples of what you agree NOT to do on BeWelcome:

9. use our services for the purpose of finding sexual partners.

Amended article 4.9

The following are some examples of what you agree NOT to do on BeWelcome:

9. use our services for the purpose of finding sexual partners. In particular this means that personal space must be respected and that hosts must never impose a shared sleeping surface. Hosts must allow their guests to sleep on a separate sleeping surface, which may simply be space on the floor if this is clearly agreed at the time the hosting is agreed;

YES

NO

I Abstain

RESULT: YES – 19 votes; NO – 3 votes; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

Poll 11 : Do you agree that former CS users or people who have heard of couch surfing should be our main target audience for the next year?

YES

NO

I ABSTAIN

RESULT: YES – 15 votes; NO – 2 votes; I ABSTAIN – 5 votes

Poll 12: What should be our main tagline:

This does not replace our current slogan "Open your door to the world" or "Your door to the world".

A) "BeWelcome - The largest free couch surfing community"

B) "BeWelcome - The largest free hospitality community"

DECISION A

DECISION B

I ABSTAIN

RESULT: DECISION A – 16 votes; DECISION B – 7 votes; I ABSTAIN – 0 votes

Poll 13:

Do you vote for a new process to be implemented for the choice of Forum Moderators and Safety TEAM members? Please see the discussion [HERE](#).

Every year the two most senior team members end their term and two more are elected to replace them.

The ones who have ended their term can run again, but to prevail over a "virgin" applicant (one who has not been part of the team within the last three years) they must get at least

twice the same number of votes. The vote is made by selecting one or zero names from the list of candidates.

In case some team members resign during the term, new members, chosen among previous applicants, may be appointed without vote.

YES

NO

I Abstain

RESULT: YES – 3 votes; NO – 17 votes; I ABSTAIN – 2 votes

Poll 14:

Do you agree to remove the following groups that serve the purpose of finding sexual partners in violation of article 4.9 of the terms of use?

Cocksurfing members

Couch Wankers

Masturbators

BDSM

Swingers

SEX <3

Polyamory

YES

NO

I Abstain

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

Poll 15:

Do you give the Forum Moderators the mandate to remove groups that serve the purpose of finding sexual partners in violation of article 4.9 of the terms of use?

BV members will be informed by the Forum Moderators about which groups have been removed.

YES

NO

I Abstain

RESULT: YES – 17 votes; NO – 2 votes; I ABSTAIN – 2 votes

14:45 - 15:00 - Coffee break (or buffer time in case of delays)

15:00 - 15:45 - Introduction of & Questions to BoD candidates / Ombudsperson

gbenouville: runs a second time. Not so many candidates, he wants to offer continuity.

With 3 members do not expect miracles

With the influx of new volunteers we can work constructively with them

He can give time to the BoD

He runs for president, but he can also be treasurer or secretary

Corazondeviaje: decided on the fly to put her candidature
It is the second time she runs
She would like to be secretary
She appreciated working with thorgal67 and looking forward to working with Gabriel
She can allocate some time to BV/BW

thorgal67:
Has been treasurer for several years, and in other previous BoD
Can cope with the workload, knows the job well
Also member of ST and moderator, but doesn't take part in decisions if there is a conflict with these teams

Daucus (ombudsperson)
You know that I am against authority, so I might be the best person to defend individual rights.

Wind (ombudsperson)
Not a lot of work because of the small number of cases
He is looking forward to extend the current discussion about the role of the ombudsperson and the visibility

Wind: could you make some BoD meetings public? Chance to make BV members more involved

Corazondeviaje: maybe is better to organize some extra meetings

Gbenouville: we should avoid to make the meetings too long, we could of course try it

duesseldorf: (video) meeting not only with BW members but be more approachable to all BW members

daucus: ask BV members to give input before the meetings

gbenouville: difficult to have already an agenda 1 week in advance. But if BV members have a point to discuss, they can contact us directly and we can add it to the agenda.

We will try to publish the summary as soon as possible (within the week)

gbenouville: states that an ombudsperson should not be against authority but have an unbiased view on a problem.

Daucus states that he is the advocate of the person complaining, and will make a suggestion to the Board/GA/etc... The ombudsperson is not the person taking the decision

Duesseldorf: how would you deal with problems between teams?

Daucus: i would be not emotionally involved.

Chingl: You say you come from a city whose people are emotional. How does that work with being impartial?

daucus: it is not exclusive. It is about being willing to do it.

official ending of the GA 2022: 15:36

17:00 - 19:00 - Optional tour of the salt mines in Wieliczka