General Assembly of BeVolunteer 2023

4th and 5th of November 2023 in person in Grenoble, France and online

moderation: Gbenouville
Minutes: Corazondeviaje

Attendees on Saturday (04.11.2022): 11 voting members + 3 guests:
gbenouville,thorgal67, corazondeviaje, duesseldorf, shevek, Polyglot, claudiaab,
leonidasz, subaculture, chagai95, marstr
non-BV members: Yvon, luixv, mrkvon

Attendees on Sunday (05.11.2022): 14 voting members + 1 guest
gbenouville, thorgal67, corazondeviaje, Polyglot, duesseldorf, shevek, leonidasz, chagai95,
Saleme, Marstr, subaculture, claudiaab, wind, jurek
non-BV members: Yvon

====SATURDAY 4th November 2023====

09:00 - 09:30 - Meeting of participants
dirtyroad.org: hospex network for motorbikers started by luixv

09:30 - 09:40 - Official Welcome

09:40 - 11:00 - Financial Report + Budget + Annual Report
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BV_Annual_Report_2022-2023_Proposal.pdf
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Financial-Statement_2022-2023.pdf
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BV-Budget_2023-2024-Final.pdf

BoD report (presented by Gbenouville):
Important events last year:
   - Members survey - led by Polyglot; last one done in 2017, next one was planned
sooner but did not happen due to Covid; Issues - lamapoll server config issues that made
it land in SPAM; in the end we managed to have a solid sample of active members; good
tool to know what are the members' expectations
   - 2 major site updates + some bug fixes and smaller improvements:
      * last login date information (many ppl use it to decide if the profile is active or not) -
ppl who selected the option to stay logged in, their login date did not update - now
replaced by last activity on the BW site;
      * update of many of the profile pages (notes, comments, profile picture), just main
profile page and edit profile page need update;
      * recently update to the location search (many people couldn't find the location they
wanted) - a lot of work done on that algorithm;
      * possible to upload bigger profile picture (formerly 2MB, now 8 MB);
- Clean-up of inactive members (last year about 18 thousand members suspended; this
year about 63 thousand) - they did not login since 5 years and 5 reminders - this year it

was discovered there was a problem in the code and the number of reminders sent was not counted correctly - so some members that should have been suspended last year (41 thousand) - hence the big drop - this should happen now every year - we can expect for next years about 20 thousand suspensions every year.

- polyglot points out if we can have / find the profile and characteristics of users that make a profile but remain inactive.
Some members that had account suspended asked to reactivate (there was a very short suspension notification sent) - 100-200 - maybe the login reminder should be phrased differently.
We are just above 200 thousand members (since the last years clean-up 48 thousand joined, so net values we are below) - last year end there were about 215 thousand.
- New payment option HelloAsso (released to www only about a week ago with the last release - a new way to pay donation by credit-card - they do not take any fees from us and no need for the member to create an account like on PayPal (still need to provide an email + address - as this is required by the banks), and they are a social economical company.
- Serial thief detected by Safety Team (active also on other networks) - Safety team acted on her multiple accounts and BV filed a complaint with French Police - now she has not been active on BW for some months (we have warned the other hospex networks) - we are constantly monitoring for this user not to create a new account.
- Sex-related groups removed, like decided by GA2022 - there was not so much protest from members - from a Forum Moderators point of view this has been a good decision.
- 3 new BV volunteers
- Number of requests and trips increased - very few invitations though
- Activities - less than last year - until now there was no big focus on the Activities page

BeVolunteer:
   - 3 BoD members (strict minimum), mostly administrative tasks; renewal of the Trademark has been done in the 2022-23 term; administrative task - coordinating with the poll team to pay for lamapoll; coordination to file the Police report about the serial thief in the name of BW;
   - difficult to recruit new volunteers (dev and sysadmin especially needed, but also forum moderators); server migration is one of the most difficult topics (no full knowledge transfer and pwd transfer to blackfalconx)
   - 28 people that can vote (active BV members)

   Financial Report (presented by Thorgal67):
      - 2373 Eur income, 4184 Expenses - large donation goal (promoted only once in the newsletter); also lower average amount donated; more donations than last year, but previous year was one really big donation; Biggest costs are servers (2500 Eur); 500 Eur for Trademark renewal; Banking costs as expected; 1 unauthorized withdrawal - we filed a complaint and made sure that this will not happen again (prelevement feature blocked); invoice for the promotional materials from previous year's GA.
      Budget for 2023-2024 (presented by Thorgal67):
         - 3044 Eur (if we do not get rid of the extra server) - 2700 Eur for the servers (half if we can get rid of the additional servers)
         BoD proposes to ask for that as the donation goal - to show our members base that this is what we need - Shevek proposes to use a round number for the donation goal - e.g. 3050 Eur; Dusseldorf says not to round the number down because an exact goal of 3000€ would not look like it's our real budget, it would look like a rough estimate.

Other Teams reports:

DesignTeam - not existent now - Dev doing the design

SysAdmin - only 1 active SysAdmin now (no real transfer from the previous team coordinator, or not a full transfer, also he is difficult to reach - so that rises the difficulty) - that is why the server migration is not done (a lot of preliminary work to do - so not an easy task); Wind offered to contact all old SysAdmins - so hopefully next year it will be better - this has just been started in the last couple weeks.

Development - just 1 Dev (Shevek) - the situation was the same for the previous years

Communication - Clean-up of team members to remove people that are not interested to keep volunteering with the communications; Social media (progressing a little), Community news; 2 newsletters; maybe stories to publish in the community news; EN Wikipedia page deleted last year - it is being reworked (hard to find reliable sources) - ongoing work by Duesseldorf and Leonidasz; Spreadshirt shop - no alternatives so far, also Spreadshirt is not being advertised anywhere
Activity Moderations - not so many activities on the site - just to check for Spam activities

Translations - new group members clean-up has been completed by the end of 2022/ beginning of 2023 - about 45 members remained (and about 40 were removed and taken away the translation rights; since then the group grew again to about 65 members, but around 10-15 are regularly active. Close to 10 languages are almost fully translated (a slight drop compared to previous year due to some new wordcodes added and database review (so no over 100% is shown); newsletters are translated to about 10 languages on average.

Safety Team - Spam checkers - checking a few times a day when the Serial thief was active; Spam checking - proactively detecting possible Spam profile, or having a spammer reported; 6 volunteers more or less active; Deal with - Spam, members disputes sometimes, deleted sex oriented groups; amendment of the Terms of Use; struggling with the different ways to report profile (people reporting a profile instead of reporting a message); 1350 tickets in the year (similar to the previous year); inappropriate messages reported - 1196 (70% more than last year)

Forum moderators team - lacking moderators - not always writing back as quickly as they would like to

Support team - some new volunteers (+2 new, -2 old resigned) - working quite well at the moment - most usual tickets - lost password, sometimes report about software issues, newsletter bounce mails - the biggest issue for the team - big part of the job.

NewMember BW team - not very active now - Finha actively writing and Thorgal67 sometimes;

Ombudsman - Pierre Charles agreed to run again

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

11:15 - 12:30 - TOPIC 1: Results of the 2023 member survey -
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s28454-
_GA_2023TOPIC_1Results_of_the_2023_member_survey
Survey results link -
https://downloads.bewelcome.org/surveys/2023_BW_Member_Survey.pdf

Survey results presented by Polyglot
Longer time since the previous members Survey - 6 years after 2017 (Covid, important
pages updated)
Same methodology, same provider
We've learnt that ppl who haven't logged since over a year or empty profile did not
respond (very few of them) - so we've added criterion that they either had profile photo or
AboutMe section filled
It was about 10 minutes to go through the survey.
1148 respondents (good increase vs the previous time, so more analysis could be done,
especially in the younger age group).
The ppl with the best profile (filled, hosted etc.) had the highest survey response rate.
2/3 male, 1/3 female, some other (more male than those were invited - 60/40 in invitation)
Average age of respondents - 45
Main reason to join 1. Stay with locals, 2. Meet locals, 3. Host travellers; Younger age
group - Travelling and saving money.
Added question for using after joining - asked for the main reason - Main reason staying
with locals (2x as main reason for hosting); only 8% say their main reason is Saving
money. Non-profit aspect of BW seems not to be the main reason a lot.
How they learnt about BeWelcome - about 50% found in internet search, 1/3 told by
someone (age group 25-29 68% internet search)
Have they logged in the last 6 months (why not if not - 1st - no traveling, similar % they
have not received request; 1/3 forgot about BW; some used other accomodation options.
Have they already met another BW member in real life - for majority they have already met
some other member.
3/4 have stayed overnight after Covid (30% of them used BW; Hotels used the most;
Hostels or AirBnB)
Main reasons for not staying with BW hosts - didn't find a host (38%), they already had
accommodation, they didn't think of it.
How many times have you stayed with a BW host in the last 12 months - 48% with 1 host,
Hosting - 39% hosted over the last 12 months, 33% hosted more than once.
41% found it difficult to find a host
50% say that Covid did not influence their hosting, 11% said they stopped hosting entirely
after it.
13% had problems receiving BW notifications (32% replied "I don't know")
Most members are satisfied with the amount of requests they receive and also with their
quality.
The amount of people that did not reply to a request increased. 35% of them did see the
request (some people send the request really last minute)
What other site they use (CS usage is significantly down - likely because of the paywall)
Most respondents participate only to travel + look for hosts.
Out of respondents 36% are satisfied with BW web overall
Improvements that people would like to receive: More hosts (66%); Receive requests only
for certain dates - some people may not realize the complexity of the feature they are
requesting; Not receive requests from unfilled profiles; Easier member search (can mean
many things); Mobile app, Mobile friendlier site.
37% of mobile users would like us to work push notification vs. less computer browser user.

Mobile app request - 39%
EU funds question - 58% say BW should concentrate on finding more volunteers, 31% I would be ready to pay a donation, 67% BW should apply for EU funds.

     polyglot: question about EU funds requested by the BoD, but not relevant to ask members about how to fund BW out of context. Regular members will not care how we are funded, but will not consider the consequences.

     gbenouville: question aimed at seeing if members would feel strongly against the principle of EU funding. All answers could be selected simultaneously: interesting to see that "avoid using paid services and focus on finding volunteers" (58%) is not contradictory with "apply for funding from the EU" (67%).

Maybe run next poll in 2 years, maybe target the improvements specifically to understand it a bit better.

12:30 - 13:30 - Lunch break

13:30 - 15:00 - TOPIC 2: Development and sysadmin priorities - https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s28592- _GA_2023TOPIC_2Development_and_sysadmin_priorities

Related to the results of the survey.
What was done from the last year - update of the profile pages (partially done); to move to the updated version of Symphony we need the updated server; old version of Symphony support stops end of 2024; profile page update is somewhat related to the Symphony update (database topic), but no direct connection.
Now we run on PHP 7.4
Sysadmin - Server migration is the most urgent topic but there is a lot of preliminary work to do here.
Likely Old OTRS version we have (5.1) will not be able to run with the new PHP version. OTRS must be migrated step by step from the version we have through all newer versions until the newest one that can work with the latest PHP version: time-consuming process (hence the try to migrate to Zammad, but not successful)
Need to migrate Beta, Production site, OTRS
Beta not being migrated prevents from benefiting from the new PHP version and going further with the update of Symfony

Improvement ideas/ Development priorities:
- Comment reminders?
- Trip and Activity notifications
- Groups
- Sign-up form - should we simplify the sign up?
- Calendar feature (request from the survey)
- Block requests from empty profiles (request from the survey)

Testers group could use more active members. Try sending notifications when there is something to test.
Profile pages - not necessary from the code point of view, but still useful to finish this; Improve the field in Hosting description area + update social networks field + option to host in 2 different places + make profile versions (translations) easier to understand

Next things to be done (as said by Shevek) - Comment reminder and Trips notification. There may be a problem to decide on the exact text. So this has to be decided first. The final text must be done first, before Shevek starts to work on implementing that.

Trips notifications - should they be opt-in or opt-out? If opt-in, many members will never know about them (not reading newsletters). If opt-out, risk of many members sending them to spam folder. Possibly send it the first time to everyone, with an easy option to opt in or out?

Feature to block request (or should it be no contact at all, so also message?) from unfilled profiles (no photo, no AboutMe). If blocking only requests, members with empty profile will easily find a workaround by sending requests as normal messages.

Sign-up form - maybe it should be shorter. A lot of people leave our sign-up process at page 2. Check how it works on the other web-sites (how many pages are there to create an account, and only after they log in for the first time, they are taken to fill in their details)

Calendar feature (requested by the users in the survey) - Shevek thinks it is useless to spend a lot of effort to develop this feature - it will probably not be used by a lot of people and even less in the right way (opinion shared by Luis). He mentions that from his experience many people don't even update their location, so very few would update their calendar regularly) - if we implement calendar, then search page would need to be updated too with the dates for which someone is searching.

gbenouville says it would mainly be used by people who can't host on certain days (like only hosting on weekends), so no need to update regularly. The only solution is currently to write about it on your profile, but people still receive requests on these days.

Maybe people who requested this feature in the survey are actually **travellers**, not hosts, who wish to receive less refusals by people saying they are not available? Then there is a risk that they will not be satisfied with the feature, if they don't realize that many hosts won't keep their calendar up to date. Also, they should not expect that a day not marked as unavailable means sure hosting.

Corazondeviaje believes that the calendar feature might have been requested by the CS influx members since the CS app does have that feature.

Maybe we need to get more user feedback about why people asked for this feature (targeted survey or question in next survey)

Reply rate feature - not a priority

Review of groups and forum organization (after the ones above) - although there may be a lot of potential there - but the vast majority of survey respondents do not find the groups important.

Maybe make a classification by topic (e.g. Music)

Geographical groups - currently not linked to the location, so maybe all the local groups should be.

Maybe would make sense for having some other (open source) tool/ web for discussions (discourse?) - suggestion from Chagai - to be checked.

People that do not reply to requests: Is there a way to automatize that they can reject automatically very bad requests (e.g. just click/ button in the notification mail - but the danger is that people will reject everything then) - there was a discussion before, and it was said we wouldn't like that feature.

Maybe make the "Stay logged in" option more visible?

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

15:30 - 16:30 - TOPIC 3: BW policy about discriminatory profiles -
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s28593-
_GA_2023TOPIC_3BW_policy_about_discriminatory_profiles

How we should deal with profiles that can be considered discriminatory?
A few months ago a communications team volunteer came across profile that she
considered discriminatory, reported to Safety Team, ST decided not to act because they
can't force anyone to host certain people, so people are free to state their preferences,
they would only act if someone puts offensive/ insulting statements – not if they just state
they don't host specific target group; because of that the volunteer resigned.
Question what is a discriminatory statement? There is no clear answer.
Should we contact the user to remove that statement - or will that make things worse,
because someone comes to his house and only then discovers the host is racist /
homophobic etc.
It should be left to the Safety team to review the ToU - in this case Safety team decided
ToU were not broken. There was no attack on a group of people.
Safety Team should get some guidelines what is discriminatory and how do we react when
we decide something is discriminatory.
A list of discriminatory behaviours was proposed (for example gender discrimination,
religious discrimination, discrimination by origin, age discrimination...), based on guidelines
applied to companies (for job interviews, etc). But the same can't be applied to BW,
because there is never any obligation for someone to host. We can't apply strict rules as in
a company to people inviting others into their home. For example a woman not hosting
men is gender discrimination, but acceptable on BW.
Discriminatory vs. offensive - anything can be discriminatory (host only one gender, only
certain age, not host people that want to party). But a person writing in a foreign language,
may not realize that something is offensive. Also "offensive" can be interpreted: gays may
be offended by a profile saying "I host no gays". But the host can't be forced to accept gay
guests anyway.
Safety team checks case by case (see if it is discriminatory and offensive) and take the
decision as best as they can.
VOTE? Not necessary since the conclusion is to keep the current way of working.

16:30 - 17:00 - Who wants to be a candidate for the BoD? Explain the BoD job more in
detail.
Call for people to apply for the BoD
1 meeting every month
Some administrative tasks to be done.
Preparation for the GA (Annual Report and budget to be made)
Other tasks depending on what each BoD member wishes to do

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

09:30 - 11:30 - TOPIC 4: EU funding: principle agreement and considered projects -
https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s27544-
_GA_2023TOPIC_4EU_funding_discussion

Brought up last year by ChingI and investigated by him and another volunteer, there are some tasks that couldn't be done in some time, so it was talked if we should potentially get some paid services to do it - and get EU funding for it.

Gbenouville comments he doesn't have any principle disagreement to use EU funds - if that can help to develop the site and do the tasks that we can't do with volunteer power. Even if it is a different way to what has been done so far (relying only on the members' donations). Further investigation would need to be done how the EU funds granting works. How long it takes - do we need to pay ourselves and then get reimbursed by the EU?

Thorgal67 mentions that as per his check, the statute of BV includes the option of national or international subsidies application.

What the vote should be for and who should decide for which project we want to gain the grant every year?

If we want to vote individually for each project, there is some preliminary work on the side of the BoD (request for quotation from the service provider to know how much it will cost). Starting this work with the risk of the project not being voted is a waste of time. So having a formal vote by each project seems a bit complicated.

Polyglot states he has been voicing his objection since a year. He thinks that the survey shows that a lot of members are willing to donate - so it is a question of explaining better to them for what we need more donations. And he believes something is working not correct (our model is not working) if we can't be funded by donations from our members, and need to apply for external funds.

He also believes that the BoD time could be spent better.

Make specific newsletter to ask for donations. We didn't explain it well enough before, and not at the most appropriate time when it has become clear that we were falling behind with donations. He believes it should be possible to get those funds from members and would be disappointed if the members don't value the services of BW enough to contribute the little money we need.

Gbenouville believes targeted donation campaigns could work for some ideas (like iOS app) that are directly concerning members. But other things like server migration or update of signup page won't be interesting to members. He also doesn't like aggressively asking for donations.

Marstr - question why there are no enough dev volunteers, why many don't stay. Shevek replies that some eager volunteers ask but then never follow-up. He is in regular contact with people that don't respond a second time.

Another reason for getting funding could be the need for moderation services - EU regulation that will be in place since February 2024 (aside from developments); or legal issue.

Polyglot says that it could make sense to apply for the EU funds to meet laws imposed on us by the EU.

Thorgal67 has doubts that we can really get funds from the members.

Duesseldorf - important question for her - will the current volunteers be demotivated/ frustrated to see someone get paid for the services they are currently providing as best as they can for free. Shevek replies he wouldn't have a problem with it. For other projects/ teams it would need to be checked case by case - so contact the particular team of volunteers.

Thorgal67 mentions that the terms of use were reviewed by the lawyer for a fee. Polyglot opposes that a legal service or alike are a different story.

Claudiaab agrees that if there is something that can't be done by any volunteers, a specific job/ task, it makes sense to pay someone but a problem can be if there is a regular job like moderation - and what if one of the volunteers applies for that as job.

Shevek says if we have something with deadline, it may make sense to get funding for that.

Duesseldorf agrees that if we have a legal obligation to do something, then it should

potentially be outsourced. But she believes that applying for the EU funding is a really big task, so the question who (BoD?) will find the time to go through it - it is an ongoing project management task and she asks not to underestimate it.

Gbenouville says he is eager to spend the time and he believes he can get help from some other volunteers. Applying for subsidies is administrative work and anyone can help with it - unlike IT development where technical skills are needed. So it should be easier to find people to help.

Marstr has concerns if it is really that easy and fast to get that funding.

Gbenouville says that this is the reason why he was thinking rather about getting funds for projects like developing features. It will not be fast, we can't apply for EU funds for something we urgently need but rather for groundwork.

That is why Thorgal67 thinks we should for now only have a vote on the principle - if majority votes against then we forget it.

Polyglot rises an objection: BW is already viewed as an Euro-centered organization. If we get the EU founds, that will reinforce the view. Right now we have huge advantage of being able to say that we are completely independent and exclusively funded by members donations.

Polyglot says that if we only plan to apply for small amounts it sounds useless, since that could be covered by donations.

Gbenouville believes that we will not be able to finance some projects from donations (e.g. if we decide to finance server migrations). We can afford it once, maybe twice, if there is a truly exceptional need. Server migration can be considered as such. But the need for IT development is both structural (because we don't have enough volunteers) and not an emergency (because we can always keep working without new features). For this kind of needs external funding would be well suited: if we get the funds we can boost site development, if we don't get them it's not a threat to the site.

Gbenouville underlines that the pre-investigation has been checking what programs we could apply to but also that by applying we will not need to change the way we are working, or rewriting the statutes.

Claudiaab says that having a general wording of the poll may result in applying for funds from orgs that she would not feel comfortable with getting funds from (authoritarian governments, etc). Gbenouville says BV would always be consulted if we consider to apply for funds other than from the EU (since only EU funding has been discussed so far). It can be considered from other sources (French government, private...). But the BoD should also be trusted not to apply for funding from sources that are not compatible with our values.

Gbenouville's idea/ suggestion was to start first with some IT short projects (Profile pages, Apple app) - maybe we can make a specific donation campaign - to have an idea if it does or doesn't work.

Thorgal67 asks are we sure if the Server migration is something we can do ourselves or should we consider this to be a task from a paid service (but we still need Freemind's input for that) - it will save us the money we are paying for duplicated services (it is technical and critical). Yvon says for sure we can find IT service companies who could do it. Gbenouville says it can be considered, but the problem is that we need to give the company proper conditions to work: define what has to be done, give them access rights, etc. Otherwise they will waste (paid) time. At the moment, it would be difficult. Wait until we can get more active sysadmins, and then ask them if there are some tasks where they need external help.

Maybe have donations to participate in different kind of fairs. Thorgal67 suggest Brussels fair (he knows there is a stand of Home exchange web). Gbenouville says he would feel

more comfortable using some external funding for such fairs, rather than asking for a donation campaign. Still need to get volunteers to represent us in such place/ event, so in this case getting funds is not competing with volunteer involvement.
Duesseldorf says it was possible in the past to get volunteers to participate in such fairs. At that time we were invited (so no cost was involved). That was about 7-8 years ago.

Gbenouville doesn't believe that these funds should be considered the main/ primary source of income (as explained in the previous discussion) and shouldn't be used for daily running.

WORDING SUGGESTION for the POLL:
Do you agree to allow BV to apply for the external sources of funding (for example, but not limited to: EU funding, national funding, etc.)? Yes, No, Abstain
BoD would first consult BV members on each specific project and BoD will always take all the necessary steps to have a poll and to hear BV members opinion(s).
So far only EU funding possibility has been investigated.

11:30 - 11:45 - Coffee break (or buffer time in case of delays)

11:45 - 12:30 - Introduction of & Questions to BoD candidates / Ombudsperson

There are 4 candidates to the BoD now - Thorgal67, Gbenouville, Marstr and Saleme
Thorgal67 asked if there were any questions to him before the coffee break, his work as treasurer is known.
Gbenouville has been in the role of president since 2 years.
Wishes to write procedure for BW teams and BoD - he finds important documenting them.
Is ready to lead the EU funding (with support from Chingl or other members).
Try to have a working sys admins team.
Marstr volunteers in the communications team (backend dev and product manager) - wants to support the BoD with the administrative tasks, and to help out.
Saleme is volunteering in communications team (in the US, not connected now, maybe he will join in the afternoon, to be able to respond questions, if there are any). Saleme did manage to join for a moment and replied some questions.

12:30 - 13:30 - Lunch break

13:30- 15:30 - TOPIC 5: Organization and missions of Communication Team - https://www.bewelcome.org/group/94/forum/s28594-_GA_2023TOPIC_5Organization_and_missions_of_Communication_Team
Cristee resigned from taking the lead for communications team because he felt like he didn't have enough support.
At this moment none is taking charge about general guidelines, target, posted content. Individual team members are posting or taking actions mainly on their own.
Maybe something more could be done in terms of taking charge and in terms of organizing the team better.
Marstr question - what is the goal generally of the team - Gbenouville replies to reach BW members and promote BW (newsletter and social media or community news are tools to reach these goals).
Maybe other tasks could be taking part in fairs.
Leadership may be needed because if someone is not proposing ideas, possibly nothing

new will happen, maybe some people who are ready to do something, will not do things on their own (maybe also they shouldn't act on their own; maybe some general guidelines should be gathered - by the coordinator). Right now people responsible for Instagram or FB, are producing the content by themselves - maybe that is duplicating the work.

Most people don't know what to do - in the opinion form Marstr.

Gbenouville mentions that we don't have so many social media followers and the idea is to get people from social media to BeWelcome.

What needs to be discussed - what kind of audience are we targeting - content may be decided only based on this.

Reaching general public (having a bigger article) could be a goal.

There is a hospex site for journalists - hostwriter.org - maybe it could be interesting to us to contact them to get some BW coverage (are maybe Saleme or Duesseldorf aware of this network) - maybe it would be interesting to dig into this topic - if it makes sense to approach them.

Need to produce some information to show in the event of participating in some fairs.

Presently there is nobody in the communications team who is dedicated to content creation.

Some content has been posted but not loaded to Github - the idea is to request to always add to some common repository, so people can reuse.

Specific tasks may be needed ("we need someone to make a screenshots video of how to use BW" vs. "we need communications volunteers")

Guidelines - proposals need to come form communications team and then maybe BoD can review.

English Wikipedia article revival - Leonidasz working on it with Duesseldorf, the final version is ready with references, if it gets killed again, we have to go to media.

Claudiaab mentions that Kaspar (member grappig) is one of the Wikipedia pioneers - maybe it would make sense to contact him and ask for support, maybe he is not very active on Wikipedia anymore, but maybe can help with contacts or some info about appealing processes.

Polyglot - his opinion is that there was someone on WIkipedia that was trying to get rid of BW article. Suggests to find someone who is already active publisher.

Local events could be in scope of Communications team - Gbenouville thinks.

ChingI was advising Kanban Board - not sure if it would really be useful for the team - maybe some members will not be comfortable to use it. Would have to be discussed in the team how to use the tool.

Marstr will check NextCloud to see what are the possibilities of installing in there.

15:30 - 16:00 - Proposals to be voted upon - finalize wording

Poll # 1: [GA2023-01] Annual Report 2022-2023
Do you approve the BV Annual Report 2022-2023?
Please find the BV Annual Report 2022-2023 HERE: https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BV_Annual_Report_2022-2023_Proposal.pdf

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #2: [GA2023-02] Financial Statement 2022-2023
Do you approve the BV Financial Statement 2022-2023?
Please find the BV Financial Statement 2022-2023 HERE:
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Financial-Statement_2022-2023.pdf

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #3: [GA2023-03] BV Budget 2023-2024

Do you approve the BV Budget 2023-2024?
Please find the BV Budget 2023-2024 HERE
https://www.bevolunteer.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/BV-Budget_2023-2024-Final.pdf

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #4: [GA2023-04] Do you elect pietshah as ombudsperson?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #5: [GA2023-05] Do you elect thorgal67 to the BoD?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #6: [GA2023-06] Do you elect gbenouville to the BoD?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #7: [GA2023-07] Do you elect saleme to the BoD?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #8: [GA2023-08] Do you elect marstr to the BoD?

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN

Poll #9: [GA2023-09]

Do you agree to allow BV to apply for external sources of funding (for example, but not limited to: EU funding, national funding, non-political funding, etc.)?
BoD would first consult BV members on each specific project and BoD will always take all the necessary steps to have a poll and to hear BV members' opinions.
So far only EU funding possibility has been investigated.

YES
NO
I ABSTAIN