

USENIX Association
Board of Directors Meeting
December 16, 2015
Minutes, 12/16/15

Attendance:

Board:

Cat Allman
John Arrasjid
David Blank-Edelman (absent)
Dan Klein (left the meeting at 12:30 p.m. PT)
Brian Noble
Kurt Opsahl (joined 9:30 a.m. PT)
Carolyn Rowland
Hakim Weatherspoon

Staff:

Casey Henderson
Kim Coles
Natalie DeJarlais
Rik Farrow - by phone, left the call 11:54 a.m. PT
Arnold Gatilao
Hilary Hartman
Sara Hernandez
Jessica Kim
Camille Mulligan
Michele Nelson
Joey Schwartz - joined 1:09 p.m. PT
Derron Thweatt
Toni Veglia

Guests:

Glenn Samson (arrives 9:05 a.m. PT)

Meeting begins at 9:00 a.m. PT

1. Minutes of the Previous Meetings (10 minutes) (Noble)
 - a. August
 - b. August Amendment
 - c. September
 - d. October

Move to approve all minutes. All present in favor. [Opsahl not present]

2. Changes to Regular and Consent Agenda (5 minutes) (Noble)

Move the 2015 budget to executive session from the consent agenda.

3. Reserve Fund Performance and Projections (30 minutes) (Samson)

Samson provides the BOD with an overview of the performance of the reserve fund.

*Kurt Opsahl joins meeting 9:30 a.m.
Samson leaves the meeting at 9:45*

4. "USENIX 101": Board Fielding Staff's Questions (30 minutes)

Break at 10:35 a.m. PT

5. 2016 Draft Budget (75 minutes) (Henderson, Veglia, and DeJarlais)

We are presenting the Board with a preliminary budget that we will continue to refine over the next several months; we will deliver the final budget at the April 2016 meeting. This draft budget is unique compared to previous draft budgets in two major ways:

1. This budget shows USENIX operating at a surplus for the first time since 2006—and only the second time since 2000. This means that we do not plan to withdraw from the reserve fund savings to supplement the 2016 budget.
2. We have added a major new event, Enigma, to the budget. Its level of success may necessitate major changes to the final budget, which would in turn impact the bottom line.

Call to Action

The board needs to approve a preliminary budget for 2016.

Discussion of Enigma budget.

Henderson provides overview of the entire budget.

Will revisit all marketing line items for all conferences in coming year.

Conferences

ATC

Did really well in 2015, especially being in the Bay Area. Adding Symposium on Usability, Privacy and Security (SOUPS) as a co-located event in 2016.

SREcon Europe

2016 will be the first foray with registration fees and hotel venue; event to be hosted in Ireland.

LISA

No recommendation to increase reg fees for the draft budget, but may be revisited for the final budget.

Security

Going to Austin for the first time. For 2017, workshops include WOOT, HotSec, and ASE.

OSDI

HotPower may not happen. Other workshops include INFLOW.

SREcon

Increased fees because registration is going up.

FAST

Is going very well. Repeating experiments with SNIA, Linux FAST Summit; introducing FreeBSD Storage Summit, run by the FreeBSD Foundation. Santa Clara in 2016 and 2017; going to Oakland in 2018.

NSDI

Co-locating with the Open Networking Summit in 2016. Not planning on co-locating in 2017. SOSR is scheduled for Monday/Tuesday before NSDI '16 and is taking place in same ballroom as NSDI will use Wednesday-Friday.

Fundraising

The fundraising budget is more conservative than in recent years due in reflection of our greater focus on development for events vs. for that of the organization itself.

General

We have budgeted for a continued decline in membership. We will address plans for USENIX membership after we have discontinued the LISA SIG. There is no LISA SIG budget for 2016 due to our plans to discontinue the program. The expenses tied to ; *login*: magazine are now based on it being published quarterly rather than bimonthly. The expenses and consultant fees for video are based on recording only Enigma, SREcon, Security, and LISA.

Move to accept the current budget, with amendment to the LISA exhibitor fee. Seconded.
All in favor.

Rik Farrow dropped off phone bridge at 11:54 a.m. PT
Adjourned for lunch at 12:00 p.m. PT

Dan Klein left ill 12:30 p.m. PT
Reconvened 1:09 p.m. PT
Dan Klein and Rik Farrow did not return after lunch.
Joey Schwartz joined the meeting at 1:09 p.m. PT

7. Small Group Discussions (165 minutes, including 30-minute break)

Goal is to give BOD members time with staff to develop a better understanding of what everyone does in the organization. Questions should be two-way.

8. Next Meetings (5 minutes) (Noble)

- a. Monthly Meetings
- b. Spring Meeting

April 11 BOD meeting in Ann Arbor

- Arrasjid may not be able to attend

June BOD meeting in Denver.

- Tentatively June 20 or 21

Meeting adjourned 4:32 p.m. PT
Executive session convenes in the Bat Cave 4:45 p.m. PT

9. Executive Session

Meeting adjourns 6:00 p.m.

