

PEERINGDB ANNUAL MEMBER MEETING

Thursday, 25 April 2019 1600h UTC

Teleconference with audio recording

DRAFT MINUTES

Attendees:

Jeff Bartig, Internet2 TransitRail

Chris Caputo, Altopia, SIX, PeeringDB Secretary/Treasurer

Ian Dickinson, TFM Networks

Stefan Funke, Leiter IT, PeeringDB Admin Committee

Patrick W. Gilmore, Addrax, ARIN, Deep Edge Technologies, NANOG, PeeringDB Director

Matt Griswold, 20C, United IX, Open-IX, PeeringDB Product Committee Vice Chair

Greg Hankins, Nokia, PeeringDB Outreach Committee Chair

Christoffer Hansen, DKNOG, GlobalConnect, Nianet, PROSA/STUD, PeeringDB Admin Committee

Aaron Hughes, 6connect, EdgeUno, UnitedLayer, Open-IX, PeeringDB President/Chair/Director

Tim Kleefass, EXARING

Martin Levy, CloudFlare

Eric Loos, Belgacom International Carrier Services, PeeringDB Product Committee Chair

Ben Maddison, Workonline Communications

Steve Meuse, Kentik Technologies

Steve McManus, Facebook, PeeringDB Product Committee

Erik Muller, Network Utility Force

Arnold Nipper, DE-CIX Management GmbH, PeeringDB Director/Admin Committee Chair

Chris Phillips, Aptient

Bijal Sanghani, Euro-IX, PeeringDB Director/Outreach Committee Vice Chair

Martin Semrad, 2 connect

Mike Simkins, Sungard Availability Services

Courtney Smith, Comcast

Job Snijders, NTT Communications, PeeringDB Vice President/Director/Operations Committee Chair

Michael Still, Network Utility Force

Filiz Yilmaz, Asteroid, GoodNets, PeeringDB Product Manager

Note Taker:

Chris Caputo, Secretary/Treasurer

1. The Chair called the meeting to order at 1605h UTC.
2. Welcome & Thanks - Aaron Hughes

Aaron expressed that it has been a year since the last member meeting and the only major difference in committees this year is that the Outreach Committee was spun out of the Product Committee. The board tries to distribute the actual operation of the organization to the various committees and keeps strategy, finance, and governance at the board level.

Aaron expressed appreciation to the many PeeringDB volunteers, noting the organization would not operate as well as it does without them.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

It was moved by Eric Loos, and seconded by Arnold Nipper that the minutes of the April 19th, 2018 Annual Member Meeting be adopted as written. The motion carried with no objections.

4. Financial Update & Call For Sponsors - Chris Caputo

Chris Caputo, as Secretary/Treasurer, provided an update:

Chris reported that Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet for 2018 have been posted to <https://gov.peeringdb.com/> and shared with the pdb-gov governance mailing list:

https://docs.peeringdb.com/gov/finances/2018-12-31_PeeringDB_Finances.pdf

PeeringDB finances are in good shape and we recently hired Product Manager Filiz Yilmaz.

Chris reported that for the most part sponsors are renewing their sponsorship. He also indicated that the two Diamond \$25k sponsors are renewing their support this year.

Call for sponsorship:

https://docs.peeringdb.com/misc/PeeringDB_Sponsorship_Levels.pdf

5. Admin Committee Update - Arnold Nipper

Arnold Nipper, as chair of the Admin Committee, provided an update:

The Admin Committee is responsible for day to day end-user support and is also the first point of contact for any inquiries to PeeringDB. The committee takes care of the consistency of the database, content-wise.

As PeeringDB is growing, the Admin Committee also is in the process of setting up a charter. This should be done by next week. This enables other committees to know what the committee is handling, along with making it easier to onboard new members.

The committee currently consists of six members. From April of 2018 to March of 2019, the outgoing members were: Brad Raymo, Bryan Jong, Luisa Fernanda Villa y Battenberg, Marty Strong, Noelle Kenny, Rob Parker, and Sean Donovan. Much appreciation to all of these individuals for their tremendous work on the Admin Committee. In the last year, the committee processed about 10,100 tickets, which is between 700 and 1,100 tickets per month. The resolution time varied between 4.0 hours and 7.5 hours in recent months.

Together with our main service contractor 20C, further tools have been developed to help the Admin Committee do their work. This includes merging facilities, supporting IXPs to renumber their IX LANs, and to restore objects.

The committee is also working on database cleansing. This consists of adding missing LAN information to IXP records, thus enabling networks to be able to report their assignments at IXPs. The Admin Committee tried hard to get all this information. The Program Committee decided to remove IXP records where we can not get LAN information. This LAN information is needed to implement further sanity checks when networks add their IXP connection.

In addition, facility information is being reviewed and corrected together with partner Inflect. Two members of the committee, Noelle and Sean, were employees of Inflect. Correcting information is an ongoing task. We currently concentrate on adding reliable geolocation data for facilities.

From April of 2018 to March of 2019 we did not see any issues with the submission and ticket system.

The Admin Committee is committed to keeping the service level high and will further work on improving the database quality.

Arnold expressed appreciation to the Admin Committee volunteers, which are Christoffer Hansen, Hendrik Braasch, Julimar Lunguinho Mendes, Peter Helmenstine, and Stefan Funke, for all of their hard work.

No questions for Arnold.

6. Operations Committee Update - Job Snijders

Job Snijders, as chair of the Operations Committee, provided an update:

There have been a lot of changes in the last year. Job is very happy to report we now have a set of load balancers and multiple front-ends increasing PeeringDB's resiliency and uptime. As some may recall it has been a multi-year adventure to move away from donated resources to a professional environment where we can reliably deliver PeeringDB to its users.

The “finger” service was retired. The “whois” service is now on a dedicated FQDN which allows future leveraging of Content Delivery Networks (CDNs).

Much investment has been made into ensuring that the deployment of the PeeringDB software is a consistent process. We use “ansible” to deploy the software. This makes it easy to deploy the PeeringDB software across multiple instances, including into development environments.

<https://translate.peeringdb.com/> has been separated into its own deployment process, which means that new translations and translation updates are able to be individually accepted and tested. More information is available at the translation web site.

In the future, the committee would like to CDN'ify all of the services, with a goal of terminating HTTP sessions closer to the users. Another goal is to move toward a container model rather than deploying new servers. Also being considered is the hiring of a system administrator since the workload is significant.

Job expressed appreciation to volunteers Chris Caputo and Matt Griswold.

Arnold Nipper asked about a timeframe for deploying PeeringDB onto other continents. Job was hesitant to commit to a timeframe, because this may be dependent on how much help the committee can get, but he hopes to see progress in the next 3 to 6 months. Arnold pointed out that as more translations are rolled out, the need to be deployed closer to distant users increases and Job agreed.

7. Outreach Committee Update - Greg Hankins

Greg Hankins, as chair of the Outreach Committee, provided an update:

The Outreach Committee was formed in April of 2018 and is responsible for all outreach activities. Members include Greg Hankins

as chair, Bijal Sanghani as vice chair, Aaron Hughes, Arnold Nipper, and Rebecca Stanić.

A major PeeringDB rebranding became public on February 22nd, 2019 in between NANOG and APRICOT. This included new logos, new sponsor logos, new skin on the web site, and updated slide-deck templates. New branding was needed because the previous branding was put together piece by piece without much coordination between components. The committee worked with Radial Path and it was a great experience.

At the February APRICOT the committee had their first ever giveaways. PeeringDB t-shirts and stickers were given out. In addition, an hour long PeeringDB tutorial was developed with DE-CIX and was presented by Arnold. Appreciation to DE-CIX and Arnold for this. This tutorial was very different than most PeeringDB presentations in that it went in depth into how to use PeeringDB.

In October 2018, a user experience survey was completed and had 110 responses. In general users are happy with the board, where funds are spent, and engagement with the community.

In 2019, the committee expects to write a charter and expand outreach to underrepresented regions. This will include presentations and promotions at events while working with local organizations, such as NIC.br and the Internet Society (ISOC) and other smaller ISPs that host these conferences. Funds will be provided for giveaways along with content for presentations in local languages.

Translations are also a big focus. Providing PeeringDB in a wider array of languages is important for increasing adoption. A mailing list for translations has recently been created and volunteers are welcome:

<http://lists.peeringdb.com/cgi-bin/mailman/listinfo/pdb-translate>

A series of short videos are being worked on with a focus on explaining why it is important to use PeeringDB.

A PeeringDB store will soon be introduced. Interest at APRICOT was very high and so an online store is needed. Sales will be at cost, since the purpose is promotion of PeeringDB awareness.

No questions for Greg.

8. Product Committee Update - Eric Loos

Eric Loos, as chair of the Product Committee, provided an update:

The biggest development in the last year has been the translation component.

The Product Committee looks at incoming issues and works to get them clarified. Once clarified the committee determines whether the issue fits with the overall goals of PeeringDB. If the committee determines an issue makes sense for PeeringDB, a development quote is solicited, considered, and potentially approved for development and release.

To achieve this kind of workflow, volunteers take a “hot seat” for a week at a time, where they are responsible for tracking new issues and responding within 24 hours.

A challenge for the Product Committee is that since it does not have a day to day operational responsibility, it has to work to maintain momentum.

Another achievement in the last year, which may help the CDN goals of the Operations Committee, is that the read and write interactions with the database have been separated in the code.

Improvements to the Python client are also being worked on, to enable better local replication of the database.

There is a backlog of approximately 110 issues. Consensus on the committee can be a challenge, and it is hoped that having Filiz Yilmaz involved as Product Manager will help.

Eric expects to work with Filiz in the coming months to acquaint her with the committee's methods. After that time Eric is happy to hand chairmanship over to another volunteer or continue as requested.

No questions for Eric.

9. Items brought up by the members / Technical and Policy Q&A

Aaron expressed that stewards really appreciate community input and committees welcome contact from users. Contact details are available at:

<https://gov.peeringdb.com/>

Ian Dickinson expressed appreciation to all volunteers and said the year has been successful from his viewpoint.

Filiz Yilmaz, new Product Manager, has been looking into the mechanisms and processes of PeeringDB in the last couple of weeks and is amazed at how it all works so well on the shoulders on volunteers.

Aaron shared that every year a strategic plan and operational objectives document is written and updated by the board, and the next session for this is May 20th in Reykjavik, Iceland. Input from the community is welcome, as this document drives objectives and is part of running the organization transparently.

10. Encourage Voting in Board Election - Aaron Hughes

There are five Board candidates this year running for three seats. Aaron encouraged voting. Voting closes on April 29th at 23:59 UTC.

Please email secretary@peeringdb.com if you have not received an expected ballot or wish to register to vote.

11. Adjournment

The Chair entertained a motion to adjourn. Job Snijders moved to adjourn, seconded by Arnold Nipper. The meeting adjourned at 1635h UTC with no objections.