

**OpenStreetMap Foundation**  
**Management Meeting (Board)**

**14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> April 2009**

**MINUTES**

Present:

Andy, Mike, Henk, RichardW, Simone, Nick, Etienne & Mikel

Apologies: Grant

Minutes of January Workshop Approved.

Steve & Etienne

Minutes of February Meeting Approved.

Nick & Etienne

**MATTERS ARISING**

**1 Licence Working Group:**

Announcement of OdbL 1.0 did not occur as originally planned by OKF. No revised release date received yet. Grant had an action to check status with Jordan. Some more responses had been received from Clark on further and amended questions but these were generally inconclusive and more clarification was required. New Licence Working Group meeting proposed for 15/04/09. It was agreed that a push needs to be made to get 1.0 available. Clark has given his opinion on Liability and Copyright violation. **Steve** proposed to provide a further update following the LWG meeting on the 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Open Data Commons' Advisory Council nomination**

Licence Working Group had discussed the "nomination" onto the licence advisory council. LWG considered that it was best to nominate from within because of the level of prior knowledge about the licence. Etienne asked if the position on the council was perpetual or whether the plan was to rotate the position. LWG propose a limit is set by the Board and Etienne suggested that this be the next AGM which was not opposed. Nick asked if the role represented the Board and Etienne felt it was and this too was unopposed. A vote of thanks was given to Mike for taking up the role as first incumbent. He confirmed he saw it as a bureaucratic position and not one for personal opinion.

An observation from Grant, put to the board by Mike, was that as a result of the delay should new OSM user sign ups be to both the existing and new licences. **Steve** said he would bring this up with Clark. Etienne wanted to ensure that new users would understand what they were signing up and that perhaps they could be permitted to sign up to the existing licence alone or both. Again **Steve** to bring up with Clark. Etienne pointed out that no change of signup should be made without a mandate from OSMF.

Andy stated that he had received an enquiry about the Licence from the head of business development at Microsoft. Details and links to the current draft provided.

**2 SOTM 09 Update**

Nick reported that there were 81 sign ups to date, which was he felt better than for this time in previous years. Most sign-ups were for all three days. 10 potential speakers had come forward which was less than last year but that individual targeting had not yet taken

place. The SOTM working group held a meeting last week which reviewed the current focus. 30 to 50 speakers are required, the higher number being accommodated in a second stream or via lightning talks.

Nick pointed out that accommodation in Amsterdam is apparently filling up fast and advised that those wishing to attend should book their accommodation soon.

Etienne asked about registration for speakers. Nick said that there were no concessions for speakers.

Sponsorship and funding is looking good with no current concerns. Henk brought up the question of free admission for hardship. **Mikel** volunteered to look at this subject to finances and other sponsorship resources.

### 3 **Technical Working Group update:**

API 0.6

Grant was unable to attend and give an update as he was meeting with the Tom Hughes and others working on the API 0.6 roll-out. Steve given an action to ensure more communication regarding the workings of the Technical Working Group to be provided to the wider OSM community.

Grant provided the following update after the meeting had ended:  
Planning to start the migration Friday: 00:01am. 0.5 API will remain available read-only as best possible until 0.6 API becomes available. Current timing estimates the database conversion taking ~20 hours + few hours extra for RAILS side upgrade.  
15th April evening final planning meeting at Cloudmade offices: Shaun, Grant, TomH, Matt attending.  
Currently OSMOSIS (daily/hourly/minutely), Planet Dump, GPX Import are not yet 0.6 / Postgresql compatible, but expect them to be working before the end of the weekend.

### 4 **Staffing**

Nick restated from the January Workshop the general conclusion that permanent staff were needed but that the functions needed to be investigated. Steve agreed it was a logical next step. Andy suggested we research the subject from a wider perspective and noted that we should focus on future needs rather than today's needs, which were currently being met. **Nick** to kick start the discussion internally and **Andy** to enquire of other organisations on their initial staffing needs.

### 5 **Local Chapters / Affiliations Working Group Update:**

Nick stated that work has stagnated due to a lack of resources. Greater canvassing and engagement within the community required and results incorporated into the draft agreement. Germany was a case in point in that three prominent German members had been approached for their views but this did not represent the very large German OSM community.

Looking to roll out the local chapters affiliation packages at the beginning of the summer.

Henk asked what the benefits of federated membership were as he had found it difficult when answering questions within the Dutch group. More work on promoting the benefits required as part of the roll out.

Simone left the meeting at this point.

## 6 OSMF

Mike gave a membership update confirming that there were 143 OSMF members at the present time and that the 200<sup>th</sup> member had recently signed up. An OSMF only mailing list had been established and the website now contained details of working groups where minutes could also be published.

Nick provided some comments following feedback elicited. Apparently a notable number of people do not like to use Paypal and that perhaps other payment options should be explored. Mike tasked with checking the OSMF sign-up wording to make sure it is simple to understand and clear that a Paypal account is not required to make payment. Nick also suggested a better welcome email, Mike to circulate the current one for comment. To this end **Andy** to look at completing the prior task of evaluation the Sustrans handbook send to volunteers. Details to be placed on the wiki. Mike still to look at country sign-ups. Henk asked what was being done regarding non renewals and Nick suggested we take this discussion and other aspects of improving membership off-line.

### Articles of Association

A number of questions have been raised about our current Articles of Association. The formation of a new working group proposed by Etienne to discuss. **Andy** to send out a request for members of a new working group to look at the Articles and other related matters.

### Copyright Liability

The question was raised whether OSMF should carry liability insurance. Steve stated he thought that Safe Harbour probably did not apply but that advice was needed. This advice would need to be UK based. The Data and Licence working groups to discuss and respond with questions.

## 7. Data Working Group

Update

Mikel gave an update on the working group. The Lithuanian data removal had been undertaken successfully with no negative feedback. Some minor number of user accounts there still need investigation following feedback from the community there.

Five or so new cases of potential data abuse or copyright violation need investigation at other locations.

Etienne raised the question of whether there was a risk of data police mentality. Andy responded that he thought not in that the community had been very supportive offering positive feedback following the Lithuanian action.

*This part of the meeting concluded at 20:00 to be resumed on 15<sup>th</sup> April at 20:00*

## 8 Exploration of OSM Stats

Nick shared Cloudmade produced statistics generated from the Planet file. It states that OSM community growth is no longer exponential although Andy argued that it had never been truly exponential but rather was a series of increasing gradient linear patterns although there was little evidence of any recent increase in the gradient. 70% of users have never mapped, ie never added to the database. Of the 30% who have never mapped 65% are now inactive. In total only 10% of the OSM userbase are actually mapping today. New mappers account for 50% of the current mapping community.

Mikel suggested that OSMF could be more proactive and It was agreed that we could do more to improve the sign-up process and make it more user friendly and lower the barrier for entry by improving tools and documentation. Existing community members might be encouraged to "buddy-up" with new sign-ups. Better use of welcome mailings and follow-ups. Contact mappers who have stopped mapping and find out why they stopped. A new working group is required to co-ordinate effort.

## 9 Sponsorship

Nestoria had offered a small one off donation in return for a their logo on the front page of the OpenStreetMap site. The Board agreed that is was not appropriate to give any single donor special prominence in this way other than those long term supporters who are already stated there. **Mikel** to further discuss with Nestoria. Etienne suggested that the a Python-like model for the display of donors might be considered, perhaps integrating our donate.osm.org page. Donations would be ranked by value and date. **Etienne** to discuss technical aspects with Grant and report back with suggestions for a further consensus to be reached.

## 11 OSI proposal (SOTM)

Mikel reported that further to the first part of the meeting held on 14/4/09, OSI had invited OSM to submit a proposal for funding to cover travel costs associated with SOTM for those participating from developing countries.

## ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12 Mike raised the question about **Press Passes** for SOTM. To be dealt with by the SOTM Working Group.

## 13 Anonymous editing

Etienne stated that there had been negative responses to his request for feedback on the recommendation that remaining anonymous editing be withdrawn. **Andy** to send mail to list stating that unless further objection the anonymous editing feature would be turned off as part of the API 0.6 migration, subject to the technical team being able to shoehorn this request into the task list.

### Next meeting:

Exact time and date to be agreed subject to Steve's diary. Expectation being w/c 11<sup>th</sup> May and w/c 8<sup>th</sup> June. (Now set for Tuesday 12th May at 18:00 UTC & Tuesday 9th June at 18:00 UTC)

An offsite meeting was proposed for Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> July in Amsterdam prior to SOTM. A Board meeting followed by a general workshop proposed.