**OFA Board Meeting**
**July 20, 2017**
**11am Mountain**

1. Roll Call:
   Board Members:
   At-Large / Jason Gunthorpe
   At-Large / Bob Noseworthy
   **Broadcom / Eddie Wai**
   **Cray/Paul Grun**
   HPE / Andy Riebs
   Huawei / Daqi Ren
   **IBM / Bernard Metzler**
   **Intel / Jim Pappas**
   **Jump Trading / Christoph Lameter**
   **LANL / Susan Coulter**
   **LLNL / Matt Leininger**
   **Mellanox / Gilad Shainer**
   **NetApp / David Dale**
   Oak Ridge / Scott Atchley
   **Oracle / David Brean**
   **Sandia / Mike Aguilar**
   **Unisys / Lilia Weber**
   Also Present:
   **OFA/Jim Ryan**
   **Mellanox/Bill Lee**
   **Intel/Bob Woodruff**

2. Approve Board minutes from 15 June 2017—A motion was made to approve the minutes from Susan Coulter (LANL), the motion was seconded by Michael Aguilar (Sandia).

3. Working Group Reports
   - Marketing Working Group (MWG)---
     - Bill Lee (Mellanox) and Jim Ryan (OFA)---The MWR is in the middle of finding a venue site for the Open Fabrics Alliance Workshop
       - Tricia is evaluating having the workshop at the Embassy Suites in Boulder, CO April 9-13.
       - There is a kickoff in August to determine the best agenda.
     - Jim Ryan invited the Open Fabrics Alliance to the Flash Memory Summit.
       - Paul Grun (Cray) will be representing the Open Fabrics Alliance at the Flash Memory Summit in the middle of August, 2017, at the Santa Clara, CA convention center.
         - Paul Grun (Cray) will be presenting at the SSSI OFA session on Persistent Memory over Fabric and Cache Coherence

- o The presentation will be 30 minutes long with 30 minutes more for Questions and Answers.
    - There is a discussion about Paul Grun (Cray) participating in the SSSI reception.
- Enterprise Working Group (EWG)---
    - o Bob Woodruff (Intel)--- OFED-4.8 was released this week.
        - The plan going forward is to start work on an OFED-4.8-1 to add Broadcom and Cavium RoCE drivers that missed the OFED-4.8 feature cut-off.
        - In addition, the EWG will add backport support for NFS/RDMA (Jeff Becker, NASA) and any other bug fixes that might be needed.
- Open Fabrics Interfaces Working Group (OFIWG)---
    - o Paul Grun (Cray)
        - Libfabric rel 1.5 likely to be released within the next week
        - The Persistent Memory topic has been re-invigorated.
            - It appears that the Non-Volatile Memory Library (NVML) can be used as a proxy for consumers of the Libfabric API, for the purpose of defining Persistent Memory (PM) requirements.
            - Two Birds of a Feather Sessions (BoFs) are in the process of being readied for SC-17, in November (Denver, CO).
                - o One BoF session will be based upon the consumers of libfabric.
                - o One BoF session will explore opportunities to integrate I/O semantics into C++
- Interoperability Working Group (IWG)---
    - o Susan Coulter (LANL)
        - Susan is working through the Interop contract because the contract hasn't been updated in a long time.
        - IWG will be working with Redhat and SUSE if they become part of the OFA Interop program.
- Open Fabrics Verbs (OFV)--- no report

4. Treasurers Report---
- Bill Lee (Mellanox)---
    - o As of June 30, 2017, the cash balance in the account is $419,894.
    - o Every member is paid up.
        - 15 Promoters
        - 3 Adopters
        - 4 Supporters
        - 1 Individual
    - o There are 8 participants in the Debug and Logo status
    - o 2017 expenses are meeting the OFA budget expectations.

5. Bylaws update regarding Open Fabrics Alliance officer vacancies
   - The Board adopted a series of motions on 4/20/17 and 5/4/17 regarding the Bylaws provisions covering officers.
     - Defined four Officers (Chair, Vice Chair, Secretary, Treasurer)
     - Defined the term in office, using a yearly staggered schedule
     - Defined the process for nominating officer candidates and for voting
     - Defined eligibility criteria and succession rules
     - Defined the roles of the Officers in conducing Member and Board meetings
     - Improved liability and indemnification provisions
   - But we didn't explicitly cover how to handle vacancies that may arise, although we did say that in some cases the Board "shall at its earliest convenience accept nominations and hold an election to fill the remainder of that individual's term"
     - Susan Coulter (LANL) originated an original proposal with a nomination period no later than 7 days before a Board meeting. Discussions were held during the June Board meeting about Susan's proposal and a compromise was reached on the nomination period in the proposal.
       - Voting on an officer proposal was motioned for by Susan Coulter (LANL) and seconded by Jim Ryan (OFA). The vote on the Officer Bylaw proposal was unanimous by the Open Fabrics Alliance Board.
       - The new Bylaw reads as follows: **"For any Officer position which is vacant, or becomes vacant, outside of the regular annual voting cadence, such vacancy can be filled at any regularly scheduled Board Meeting provided that a nomination to fill such a vacancy is published to the appropriate email reflector no later than fourteen calendar days prior to the targeted Board Meeting. Such a nomination shall serve as the beginning of a nomination period, with such nomination period to close 72 hours prior to the targeted Board Meeting. All such nominations shall be captured in the Agenda for the targeted Board Meeting."**

6. Draft Mission Statement:
   Create an environment where highly performant networking can be developed, enhanced, and integrated with new and emerging technologies.
   - Susan Coulter (LANL) wanted the Board to mull over a new mission statement. She stated that there should be a sense of urgency for making a change in the Mission Statement if the Open Fabrics Alliance wants to stay relevant.
     - Paul Grun (Cray) mentioned that current Mission Statement is made towards ownership of the OFED stack. The ownership of the OFED stack is no longer in the hands of the Open Fabrics Alliance.
   - Susan Coulter (LANL) stated that the Open Fabrics Alliance Mission is an intrinsic part of deciding what the Open Fabrics Alliance (OFA) is. Understanding the OFA mission helps the Alliance make other beneficial

decisions, such as, getting then number and features of different membership levels.

- Paul Grun (Cray) stated that he believes that the new OFA Mission statement should be backed up by:
    - 1) a specific actionable purpose
        - 2) Paul Grun (Cray) and Jim Pappas (Intel) stated that they believe that the mission statement should determine what activities go to support the Open Fabrics Alliance (ie. IWG, MWG, the Open Fabrics Alliance Workshop).
            - Bob Woodruff (Intel) stated that he felt that more actionable items to be part of what the Alliance is doing to support the mission. For instance, he mentioned that fostering the OFA Workshop gets people together for discussions and leads to more Open Source activities.
- Lilia Weber (Unisys) wanted to make a change in the wording for the Draft Mission Statement from Create to Foster. Also, she stated that she felt that the words high speed networking is a concern.
    - Christoph Lammeter (Jump Trading) wanted to understand what impact the wording changes from Create to Foster would be.
- Gilad Shainer (Mellanox) wanted to mention that the Mission Statement should not be only about software but should include hardware, so as to not alienate the Alliance from certain other industry groups.

7. Online repo for meeting notes, etc
    - Susan Coulter (LANL)---"We had a conversation a while back about storing our minutes for perpetuity."
        - Because the Open Fabrics Alliance is a 501c6 business league, the IRS requires the Alliance to store it's minutes.
        - Currently, the minutes are stored on paper and on the Causeway Repo.
    - The OFA Board needs to make a decision on how and where we are going to store the meeting minutes on an electronic repo and what that storage will look like.
        - Further, a decision needs to be made on who will have access to the minutes. Will they be public or private?
    - Michael Aguilar (Sandia) has a legal responsibility, as the OFA Secretary, to be the keeper of the minutes.
    - The electronic storage price will need to be included in the OFA budget for 2018.

8. LANL Motion: LANL moves to discontinue receiving Intel funds for Executive Director position

    - Susan Coulter (LANL) and Jim Pappas (OFA) got together to renegotiate contract.
        - Jim Ryan's tentative contract reads as follows: **The role of the Executive Director (ED) of the OpenFabrics Alliance (OFA) is to implement the**

**strategic plans of the OFA in a cost-effective and time-efficient manner. The ED will also act as a liaison with organizations such as SNIA, and plays a strong role in both the logistics and technical content planning for the annual workshop. The ED will also assist in complex and long-running projects to insure satisfactory completion, and providing insight and historical context as appropriate. In addition, the ED may be expected to fill in as Secretary or Treasurer in their absence. In the case of hiring staff, the ED will play a role in the advertising, vetting and interviewing of said staff. When necessary the ED will contribute to the development of business plans in collaboration with the Board of Directors (BoD). The ED reports to the BoD and the BoD grants the ED the authority to perform tasks. The ED is accountable to the Chair of the BoD and provides status reports on a regular basis.**

- o Jim's contract would be budgeted for work for $85/hr for 10 hours per work week. This contract price is lower than the $100/hr for 20 hours per work week that we are currently paying. The budget outlay would be: around $44,200 for Jim Ryan's contract, unless extra hours are needed for Jim to perform extra work.

- If work demands increase for a short period (ie SSSI or SNIA work for the MWG), the work hours can be increased without renegotiation.
- Christian Lammeter (Jump Trading) requested a period of time to evaluate the contract for Jim's work hours and value to the Alliance.
  - o Susan Coulter (LANL) stated that Jim Ryan (OFA) does a lot of the legwork for getting people together for discussions and contributes in discussions with Interop. She also stated that she believes Jim Ryan (OFA) brings a valuable historical perspective for many current Open Fabrics Alliance issues. Susan explained that Jim Ryan helps with nenewing the OFA trademark, helping the MWG, spending time to find Workshop venues. Also, Jim attends Alliance Working Group meetings to help alleviate overlapping or conflicting issues.
- The Board will tentatively vote in August, at the next OFA Board meeting, on Jim Ryan's new contract.
  - o Jim Pappas (Intel) is requesting a decision be made in the next couple of weeks in Jim Ryan's contract, since Intel, and his budget at Intel are currently paying Jim Ryan's salary.
    - ▪ Susan Coulter (LANL) is proposing a vote be made before the next Board meeting by email on Jim Ryan's contract.