

OFA XWG Meeting
August 3, 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

Intel / Divya Kolar

2. Approve XWG minutes from 7/6 & 7/13

- Fixes were requested for both the 7/6 Minutes and 7/13 Minutes. The fixes were completed.
- 7/6 Minutes approval motioned by Susan Coulter (LANL) and seconded by Divya Kolar (Intel) for Jim Pappas.
- 7/13 Minutes approval motioned by Susan Coulter (LANL) and seconded by Mike Aguilar (Sandia).

3. Linux Plumbers Conference / Jason's travel to represent OFA

- Jason Gunthorpe will represent the Open Fabrics Alliance at the Plumber's Conference
- The cost of the conference appearance is roughly \$430 for the flight and \$1000 for the hotel.
 - Bill Lee is on vacation right now.
- Susan Coulter (LANL) stated that she preferred Jason speak to a general audience, instead of a specific audience when Christoph Lameter (Jump Trading) asked about the target audience.

- The Open Fabrics Alliance represents a significant number of important companies that have a common shared interest in the RDMA subsystem in the Linux kernel.
 - Both Susan Coulter (LANL) and Christoph Lameter (Jump Trading) want to convey that the RDMA subsystem is an important technology and it interacts with other subsystems in the Linux kernel.
- Larger community sees us as just a set of device drivers
Influence the OS deliver PCP stack

4. Intel funding discussion

- The agreement for Intel's bridge funding for up to 18 months with finishes on 31 December 2017.
 - Intel provided the bridge funding with the stipulation that funding would be to support Jim Ryan (OFA) who has a background with the Open Fabrics Alliance and that the funding would run out on 31 December 2017.
- Susan Coulter (LANL) and Paul Grun (Cray) would like to move to end Intel's bridge funding before 31 December
 - Paul Grun (Cray) wants to end the Intel funding so that there is no possible impression that there could be a conflict of interest---'We need to wipe away and sever the Intel funding.'
 - The Intel funding has become problematic to OFA operations.
 - There are concerns of a potential conflict of interest with the Intel funding from other members.
 - Jim Ryan (OFA) has tried to keep a low profile in the larger meetings while helping a great deal in the background.
 - Jim has been working and communicating with the Storage Network Industry Association (SNIA)
 - We are trying to leverage and build a synergy with SNIA.
 - Susan Coulter (LANL) feels the OFA would continue in operation without Jim's assistance but not as well. Jim contributes insights and leadership and attends meetings.
 - Susan Coulter (LANL) explained to Divya Kolar (Intel) that since a Board vote must be made to end the funding, that no decision on the last PO date can be given to Intel.

5. Executive Director discussion

- Paul Grun (Cray) described the functions of an Executive Director
 - Member of the Leadership team
 - Not a person to do mundane tasks.
 - A facilitator of discussions within the organization---move forward discussions forward
 - To support people in a policy making role, not a policy maker or a voter

- An Executive Director would be in the long-term best interest of the Open Fabrics Alliance
 - The responsibility of an Executive Director might change with a change in the mission statement.
 - An Executive Director would be a person that would help move the OFA forward in a way that would match whatever Mission Statement is finally decided upon.
 - Liaison with other organizations.
 - An Executive Director would off-load responsibilities from other officers (ie Workshop locations).
 - An Executive Director would help with getting the background information on policies to aid the Board of Directors (ie. that of the storage of Electronic Documents).
 - Susan Coulter (LANL) stated that the Open Fabrics Alliance can continue without an Executive Director, but not as well as it can with an Executive Director.

6. Bylaws discussion

- Paul Grun (Cray) Update on the Bylaws discussion shows:
 - Completion of the Board of Directors discussion
 - Both Officers and Officer vacancies now have decisions made.
 - Executive Working Group is mostly done. A consensus has been reached but votes are needed.
 - Work needs to be done on what the classification ‘In Good Standing’ means and the mechanisms by which to ensure quorum can be consistently achieved.
 - Discussion of the number of membership classes is still to be made.
 - Decisions on the bylaws for Working Groups still must be concluded.
 - Decisions must be made for the OpenFabrics Software, “OFED”
 - Discussions continue on the Mission Statement.
- Susan Coulter (LANL) stated that she felt that the OFA needs a Maintainer.
- Susan Coulter (LANL) wants to make sure that everyone understands the importance of concluding a Mission Statement, as soon as possible.\

7. The next Board meeting will occur on 31 August 2017.

8. Then next XWG meeting will occur on 24 August 2017.

- The Open Fabrics Alliance budget will be discussed.