

NANOG Members Meeting
Feb 19, 2019 / NANOG 75
San Francisco, CA
9:00 AM PST

L Sean Kennedy Chair	Edward McNair, Executive Director
Patrick Gilmore	Brandi Herrera, NANOG Staff
Will Charnock, Treasurer	Valerie Wittkop, NANOG Staff
Brad Raymo, PC Chair	De' Harvey, NANOG Staff
Susan Forney, Secretary	Shawn Winstead, NANOG Staff
Dave Siegel, PC Liaison	Tina Morris, Vice Chair

Start Time: 9:15 am PST

Governance & Transparency (Sean)

- Board is committed to transparency
- We reviewed published Board minutes and identified/corrected omissions from 2018 which are posted.
- Staff and Secretary are taking more detailed notes of Board meetings to increase transparency going forward.
- Financial Controls Policy, Financial Reserve Policy, and NANOG Investment Policy. Statement will be posted to Corporate Documents section of Website.

Financial Report (Will)

- **2018 Balance Sheet:** About 5.7 million in total assets. Balance sheet is strong. We have not yet met our reserve. Part of our policy is to keep 800,000 in cash at all times. We are continuing to add to this.
- **2018 Budget vs Actuals:** Sponsorship revenues were greater than forecasted. Registration revenues were less than forecasted. We finished the year with roughly 100,000 surplus. Once the budget is ready to be looked at, we will publish it.
 - **Q:** What is our reserve?
 - **A:** There's no fixed formula for setting a reserve. We felt 5 million was a good reserve for 2 years. We can review this at any time.
 - **Q:** Is there an adjustment plan?
 - **A:** Not built into the policy, but we can add one at any time.
- **2019 Budget Highlights:**
 - Outreach Allocations
 - Fully-weighted Staff positions
 - Increased Sponsorship Revenues

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- Decreased Overhead Expenses

Website Update

- New website is currently in Beta: <https://new.nanog.org/> but the public facing pages are operational:
 - We took a graphic-driven approach to the design.
 - We restructured the menu system (Participate, About, Outreach, Resources, News + Stories):
 - Making it easier to access the content.
 - Broke the content down further into categories for what happens inside NANOG, and what happens outside NANOG (Outreach)
 - The public can now get a better feel for what NANOG, the organization, is like. And the people who make up this community.
 - **Q:** Is the new website accessibility compliant?
 - **A:** Yes, we are making sure it will be compliant.

 - **Q:** Will the new site have more than two future meetings listed?
 - **A:** Yes.

 - **Q:** Will we still use Cvent?
 - **A:** Yes.

 - **Q:** What is the launch date for the new site?
 - **A:** Approximately three weeks from now.

 - **Q:** Will the new site be mobile friendly?
 - **A:** Yes.

 - **Q:** What is the path for feedback on the development of the new site?
 - **A:** We'll provide members with direct avenues for feedback, including a feedback button on the site itself.

General Q&A

- **Comment:** In light of the continued evolution of NANOG, I'm suggesting an easily identifiable lanyard system so we can more clearly see who is attending, and why they are here. I am concerned about where our money is being spent, and if enough is going to education, and operator-focused content and support. I feel that the Hackathon wasn't supported enough, and that we are not fully representing our communities in secondary and tertiary cities.

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- **A:** We take the Hackathon very seriously, and would like to continue to grow this event into one that is even more essential to our organization.
- **A:** We are not charging to attend the Hackathon. Based on that, we have placed it within a cost structure that made sense for this. We will continue to take feedback into consideration based on any concerns with the programming and structure we are offering.
- **A:** We have looked at going to smaller cities, but the membership has responded that they prefer larger cities because they're easier to get to. The other issue with smaller cities, is that there are no hotels in secondary and tertiary cities that can fit our community. We can always do a better job at addressing education.

- **Comment:** I would like to suggest a new system so we have data that reflects who is coming to our events, and why they are here. We currently have no way of measuring, and we can't react without data.
- **A:** Different colored badges won't solve this issue. If you would like to see a Q&A session for our entire community, we have added a community meeting at NANOG 75 for this purpose. A question to consider: do we want to make NANOG meetings for a smaller group, or as accessible as possible? Bigger, tier-1 cities are easier to get to.

- **Comment:** I would like to second the concerns around NANOG moving too far away from its roots in education and operations. As a 501(c)(3), I would like to see us putting the money we are taking in back to programs that support our mission.
- **A:** Thank you for your comments.

- **Comment:** I am happy to see that we are developing more opportunities for outreach.
- **A:** Thank you.

- **Comment:** At one point we had more canned content. Even though the program committee is somewhat beholden to what talks are submitted, we should look to do more solicitation of content, including educational content and tutorials.
- **A:** NANOG on the Road is hit or miss when it comes to attendance. We aren't reaching new people, so we are looking into other ways of reaching communities in more remote areas.
- **A:** NANOG on the Road was created to offer representation, programming, and resourced in secondary and tertiary cities.

- **Comment:** Education appeals to me as well. I believe there's a spectrum of possibilities we could look at; from more traditional classroom content, to tutorials, and even one-on-one mentorship opportunities.

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- **A:** We recognize that “education” means different things to different people. We’re looking at how we can address and respond to education in a variety of ways. The PC is mostly focused on bringing in new content. We will take the feedback regarding rotating tutorials back to the PC.

- **Comment:** We used to devote Sunday to a tutorial track. That disappeared, and now we do the Hackathon. This event is very educational in its content and format, so it has built on and even improved what we used to do with tutorial tracks. It’s hands-on, vs. passive.

- **Comment:** I agree with the concerns around data collection, but I don’t believe that we need to use a color lanyard system. I think it would be easy enough to parse through the registration information we have from the last 5 years.

- **Q:** How important is it to you for us to provide resources and services to reach out to underserved and resource strapped communities?
- **A:** There are nogs that are already doing this kind of work, that we could reach out to them for guidance.

- **Comment:** I would like to see a four-year high school curriculum developed.
- **A:** Thank you for your feedback.

Adjourned: 10:02 am PST