The General Assembly of the Association “ReactOS Deutschland e.V.” took place in the internet (SSL secured IRC server) on 14th January, 2017 at 16:12 (local German time).

Attendant members:
- Matthias Kupfer (President of the Association)
- Daniel Reimer (Vice President of the Association)
- Colin Finck (Treasurer)
- Amine Khaldi
- Mark Jansen
- Timo Kreuzer
- Thomas Faber (from 17:25)

Summary of the decisions
- The Board has been discharged of its responsibilities.
- The Association seeks to attend the FOSDEM in February, Chemnitzer Linux-Tage in March, and FrOSCon in August 2017. It may also organize a ReactOS Hackfest in 2017 again.
- Colin Finck reported about scholarships and freelancers. The Association currently funds scholarships for two students and has contracted one freelancer for ReactOS USB work. Funds are still available for more paid development and the Association is open for ideas and applications.

The original wordings of all attendant members can be read in the attached IRC Log.

Aachen, 14th January, 2017
For the correctness of the minutes

(signed Colin Finck) (signed Matthias Kupfer)
(Minute taker) (President)

Attachments
- Automatically created IRC Log of the General Assembly
- Annual Report 2015
Matthias_Kupfer: if you don’t answer within 5 minutes, your vote will be counted as an abstention. We can collect the result only in a private query. VoteBot asks a question with several options and gives options for you to answer.

Okay, we have a VoteBot, because everyone can give a secret vote without letting know any other person according to the charter.

Before we vote, maybe quickly explain VoteBot to the new members?

Foundation members discharge the board, the responsibilities for the actions the board has taken in that year are transferred from the board members to the foundation.

I welcome you to the (second attempt) of the general assembly for 2016(!)

Colin_Finck: now Matthias Kupfer has the word.

Colin_Finck: Timo Kreuzer: but nobody except the board was present in November 2016.

Timo Kreuzer: Where is the report from 2016?

Mark Jansen: Colin Finck, I saw nothing in the annual report about discharging the board?

Matthias Kupfer: The annual report summarizes our activities. The discharge has to be happen here in the assembly and was mentioned in the invitation.

Mark Jansen: Ye.

Timo Kreuzer: Sorry English here.

Timo Kreuzer: Please send out invites a bit earlier.

Colin_Finck: still looking forward to get more of the project people to join.

Matthias Kupfer: One Information to our new members: bear in mind, from 1700 CET the chat log is used as an official protocol and becomes available for authorities.

Matthias Kupfer: for our newcomers: Note that the entire conversation here is logged and later published unredacted on https://ev.reactos.org as part of the General Assembly minutes.

Timo Kreuzer: Schickt die Einladungen mal früher raus.

Timo Kreuzer: I read, no questions.

Mark Jansen: The annual report summarizes our activities.

Matthias Kupfer: the entire board was here the last time as well.

Mark Jansen: it was the report of 2015.

Matthias Kupfer: Mark Jansen: The annual report summarizes our activities.

Matthias Kupfer: the discharge has to be happen here in the assembly and was mentioned in the invitation.

Mark Jansen: Ye.

Timo Kreuzer: Where is the report from 2016?

Timo Kreuzer: Colin Kreuzer: not yet done as this is the second attempt at the annual meeting that should have happened in 2016.

Matthias Kupfer: So, for the official part, thank you for coming.

Timo Kreuzer: ok.

Timo Kreuzer: but nobody except the board was present in November 2016.

Matthias Kupfer: ok. Arrived and still working Teamviewer.

Matthias Kupfer: Hello everyone.

Matthias Kupfer: nice. At least the entire board is here, we can begin in 5 minutes.

Matthias Kupfer: the entire board was here the last time as well.

Timo Kreuzer: How many members are we now?

Matthias Kupfer: Amine Khaldi and Mark Jansen are here for the first time today. Thank you for caring about the foundation stuff behind the scenes.

LogBot has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

VoteBot has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Colin_Finck has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Daniel Reimer has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Amine_Khaldi has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Matthias Kupfer has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Colin_Finck has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Mark Jansen has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Colin_Finck has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Mark Jansen: hello.

Mark Jansen: I am on time I hope.

Mark Jansen: just got home.

Colin_Finck: as we have a grace period of 15 minutes for everybody to join (and it’s highly unusual we get everybody from the e.V. to join), we begin at 5pm CET.

Colin_Finck: as part of the General Assembly minutes.

Timo Kreuzer: has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Timo Kreuzer: Send out invites a bit earlier.

Colin_Finck: noted.

Colin_Finck: while we’re still waiting for the others to join until 5pm, I hope you have all read the Annual Report that came with the invitation mail from 11st December.

Colin_Finck: if not, please do so now, as the first vote will be regarding the discharging of the board based on this report.

Matthias Kupfer: has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Daniel Reimer: ok. Arrived and still working Teamviewer.

Matthias Kupfer: Hello everyone.

Matthias Kupfer: nice. At least the entire board is here, we can begin in 5 minutes.

Matthias Kupfer: the entire board was here the last time as well.

Matthias Kupfer: How many members are we now?

Matthias Kupfer: Amine Khaldi and Mark Jansen are here for the first time today. Thank you for caring about the foundation stuff behind the scenes.

Colin_Finck: ok.

Colin_Finck: Colin Kreuzer: 11

Timo Kreuzer: nice.

Colin_Finck: still looking forward to get more of the project people to join.

Matthias Kupfer: One Information to our new members: bear in mind, from 1700 CET the chat log is used as an official protocol and the chat log is used as an official protocol and become available for authorities.  

VoteBot: has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Colin_Finck: therefore, we have to do it as part of the General Assembly, weekly every year, based on the Annual Report.

Colin_Finck: in this is where we need you for point 2 of the agenda now.

Matthias Kupfer: before we start, I would like to add a few things. Matthias Kupfer: discharge is more or less a legal thing. It is used to ensure the board actually provided a correct annual report and take actions in the interest of all members.

Matthias Kupfer: before we vote, maybe quickly explain VoteBot to the new members.

Matthias Kupfer: so we can collect the result only if you don’t answer within 5 minutes, your vote will be counted as an abstention.
In some votes some persons are excluded, e.g. the board members for the discharge. I assume those questions are prepared beforehand, would it be an option to already include them in the invitation mail? I am not done as to avoid people discussing them.

Colin_Kirsch: Mark Jansen: It will be a single vote with the question: "Do you agree with discharging the responsibilities of the Board? (in German: "Sprechen Sie den Vorstand Entlastung aus?")"

Colin_Kirsch: oh, in that case no :) because that was already in the mail.

Colin_Kirsch: Looks like everybody's ready.

Matthias_Kupfer: shall I set up the vote now?

Matthias_Kupfer: Okay, so, Amine_Khaldi are you ready for the vote, I still didn't read anything?

Amine_Khaldi: sure.

Matthias_Kupfer: Find, so Colin, please start.

VoteBot: Colin_Finck has set up a vote and I'm asking all participating members in private messages now.

VoteBot: Excluded from voting:

VoteBot: Colin_Finck

VoteBot: Daniel_Reimer

VoteBot: Matthias_Kupfer

VoteBot: The vote is over. Here are the results!

VoteBot: Question: Do you agree with discharging the responsibilities of the Board? (in German: "Sprechen Sie den Vorstand Entlastung aus?")

VoteBot: Answers:

VoteBot: Abstention - 0 votes

VoteBot: Yes - 3 votes

VoteBot: No - 0 votes

VoteBot: Total number of votes: 3

Colin_Kirsch: Thank you! This is really important for us :) Matthias_Kupfer: Okay, many thanks.

Matthias_Kupfer: In that case we know everyone's vote :) Colin_Kirsch: For your information, the German financial authorities have just checked our Annual Reports for 2013 through 2015 as well and gave their blessing ;)

Mark: nice.

Daniel_Reimer: great.

Matthias_Kupfer: So, now for the upcoming activities:

Matthias_Kupfer: I already know we are going to take part of the Chemnitz Linux Days as usual.

Colin_Kirsch: are we?

Colin_Kirsch: I heard Daniel had severe problems finding people.

Matthias_Kupfer: Daniel made the submission.

Daniel_Reimer: OK

Daniel_Reimer: still wait for some absolute YES.

Matthias_Kupfer: We have problems with finding people, but Daniel placed a submission in the CLT database.

Matthias_Kupfer: I'm there (of course).

Matthias_Kupfer: Timo_Kreuzer: could you join us?

Timo_Kreuzer: no.

Daniel_Reimer: As I said, we can't wait any longer, but canceling is still possible, so...

Timo_Kreuzer: I only just got my exam dates and I may finally come again after 6 years of absence. ...

Timo_Kreuzer: I'll be in Goa or rather on my flight back.

Daniel_Reimer: sure Colin? I'd be happy to have you there ^^ Matthias_Kupfer: okay, I think we need at least 2 persons and I can step in for some moments if necessary.

Colin_Kirsch: Daniel_Reimer: cool! Probably won't be of much help with the preparation as one exam is right before CLT, but would really like to get to Chemnitz again.

Matthias_Kupfer: Are there any other planned activities this year?

Daniel_Reimer: We discuss this later. we will get things working fine, but need ppl there.

Matthias_Kupfer: Or other events, we would like to attend?

Daniel_Reimer: FOSDEM?

Colin_Kirsch: there is FOSDEM on February 3-5.

Matthias_Kupfer: up's, that's a very short time notice.

Colin_Kirsch: but a severe lack of people who can join.

Daniel_Reimer: Vic had some problems I have, no clue if things went fine.

Matthias_Kupfer: okay, so I assume we'll skip this, any other events this year, maybe later this year?

Colin_Kirsch: FrOSCon would be nice.

Colin_Kirsch: and close to my place here :)

Colin_Kirsch: it's around August if I remember right.


Colin_Kirsch: In Bonn, Germany.

Colin_Kirsch: maybe also an option for Mark Jansen.

Mark: that is quite a lot closer, yes.

Daniel_Reimer: remind me of that one. now to check my holidays.

Matthias_Kupfer: okay, so we are going to focus on FrOSCon as well, is there a registration deadline known?

Mark Jansen: would be nice, ill mark it in my agenda.

Colin_Kirsch: Matthias_Kupfer: no idea. Don't even find a registration link on the website.

Colin_Kirsch: would anybody take over the responsibility for this? :

Thomas_Faber: has joined #generalassembly with voice status.

Colin_Finck: hi, Thomas_Faber.

Colin_Finck: you have time for FOSDEM, CLT, FrOSCon?:

Daniel_Reimer: before CLT... anyone else?

Matthias_Kupfer: The call for Projects is not open yet, so we have to wait, maybe we can get some information at Chemnitz Linux Days.

Thomas_Faber: No for the first two, need to look up what Chemnitz is.


Matthias_Kupfer: Colin_Finck: are there any other events planned, any hacking event for example?

Thomas_Faber: Possibly: Nothing planned at that time so far.

Matthias_Kupfer: otherwise we focus on CLT and FrOSCon.

Matthias_Kupfer: and come to the next point of the agenda.

Colin_Kirsch: Matthias_Kupfer: I haven't planned a Hackfest and I haven't heard of anybody else doing so. Can't really say what I will be doing by the end of the year. But if there is strong demand, we may have one in Aachen again.

Matthias_Kupfer: okay.

Matthias_Kupfer: Paid development activities:

Colin_Kirsch: Colin can you give an overview of the current situation.

Colin_Kirsch: sure.

Colin_Kirsch: right now, we're having two developers under scholarship.

Colin_Kirsch: Giannis Adamopoulos just started this month and Hernes Belusca-Maito since November.

Colin_Kirsch: we will soon also contract one freelancer, Vadim, for USB work.

Colin_Kirsch: as all these activities usually last less than a year, we definitely have funds for even more such activities left.

Colin_Kirsch: for tax, legal and organisational reason we avoid employers.

Colin_Kirsch: basically, if you have ideas worth funding or know people whose ReactOS work could highly benefit from funding, don't hesitate to tell us.

Matthias_Kupfer: so if anyone is qualified for a scholarship or can work as a freelancer, suggestions are welcome.
Matthias_Kupfer: membership isn't required

Mark_Jansen: Would it make sense for someone to be doing (paid) blog updates with what is happening in the community?

Matthias_Kupfer: so, I think that's all for that point, so we can move on to personal data changes

Daniel_Reimer: no changes in my case

Matthias_Kupfer: Mark_Jansen: might be, but we are limited to specific tasks for our payments

Mark_Jansen: would you know somebody?

Matthias_Kupfer: it has to be development or education, paid blog updates don't seem to fit in those areas for me

Mark_Jansen: but if we would accept such a position, it is a different type of people you are looking for

Mark_Jansen: not developers per-se, but writers

Colin_Fink: yeah

Timo_Kreuzer: We could ask Geoff Chappell, he works as a freelancer and obviously has good knowledge, he might be hired by CS, but that's not yet sure and will probably not happen within the next few month. He might be expensive though :)

Colin_Fink: I actually hope for a community that is interested in doing that even without getting money

Mark_Jansen: Timo_Kreuzer, I actually looked into that

Colin_Fink: Timo_Kreuzer: yes, he is expensive :D

Timo_Kreuzer: wow

Mark_Jansen: so let's not do that ^

Colin_Fink: but yeah, important enough that 2 people here know his hourly rate already :D

Matthias_Kupfer: 400$ per hour, are you kidding?

Mark_Jansen: that is for short projects of 1-2 hour

Mark_Jansen: For longer projects the rate goes down

Mark_Jansen: but is still very high

Colin_Fink: Matthias_Kupfer: someone who has built up a strong reputation for a very specific area of software engineering

Mark_Jansen: The standard rate for small work items such as crash-dump analyses and casual questions about undocumented or under-documented Windows API functions is $400 per hour. A minimum of one hour applies. After that, time is counted in decimal parts of hours.

Matthias_Kupfer: I don't know him, but it's a very high rate, he must be a relative of God

Mark_Jansen: he is good.

Colin_Fink: Matthias_Kupfer: after the annual report has been finished

Mark_Jansen: any estimate for the date?

Matthias_Kupfer: please bear in mind, this was the 2nd meeting for 2015, so the general assembly for 2016 will come this year too

Mark_Jansen: ok.

Matthias_Kupfer: If anybody would like to ask him, maybe with a hint the payment comes from donations, his rate may become negotiable

Colin_Fink: let's think about that outside this General Assembly

Matthias_Kupfer: okay

Colin_Fink: don't want to bloat the meeting minutes too much ;)

Matthias_Kupfer: are there any other personal changes (address, phone numbers, e-mail etc.)?

Colin_Fink: doesn't look like it

Matthias_Kupfer: Doesn't seem so, than thank you for being here

Colin_Fink: eya

Amine_Khaldi: thank you guys

Colin_Fink: let's get back to hacking :D

Matthias_Kupfer: after the annual report has been finished

Colin_Fink: is around easter a good date?

Colin_Fink: think we can try that

Mark_Jansen: thanks guys

Colin_Fink: people generally demand it to be more at the beginning/middle of a year instead of our now common end of year meetings

Matthias_Kupfer: okay, so we are going to schedule the next assembly around easter

Matthias_Kupfer: for legal reasons the Invitation has to be sent to you some weeks earlier, so you will not miss that

Colin_Fink: Election of the Board will be one part of the next General Assembly

Colin_Fink: it has been 3 years again

Mark_Jansen: some info regarding that would be nice :) —

Mark_Jansen: to read up on before the meeting starts

Matthias_Kupfer: ok, we will include that info in the invitation mail

Matthias_Kupfer: So, I think that's it for today

Matthias_Kupfer: Thx again and a nice weekend

Mark_Jansen: have a good weekend all :) —

Colin_Fink: shutting down the IRC Server now
Annual Report 2015

As stipulated in the Articles of Association of ReactOS Deutschland e.V., the Annual Report gives an overview of the work of the Association in the year 2015. It is separated into Activities, Outlook and Finances. The primary purpose of the Association lies in the support of the ReactOS Project. In 2015, the main tasks were:

- Organizing the first ReactOS development event (“ReactOS Hackfest 2015”)
- Presenting the project on popular exhibitions/events
- Awarding scholarships to eligible students working on ReactOS

Activities

The following annual activities, which directly contribute to the Association's purpose, are not presented in detail. These were in particular:

- Continued development on the operating system ReactOS and related components (like RosBE), also by non-members
- Receiving donations and managing the collected funds
- Accounting and managing the members

The experiences at Kieler Linux-Tage 2014 have shown that a public event exclusively dedicated to ReactOS development would be highly beneficial to the project and should be targeted for 2015. Planning such an event began in the beginning of 2015 with the idea of letting it happen at a project member's location in Sweden. Around March, it turned out that the designated location in Sweden did not fulfill the technical requirements for such an event. Alternatives were considered and eventually, it was decided to host a one-week event in a seminar building of the RWTH Aachen University. The event was called “ReactOS Hackfest 2015” and took place from 7th to 12th August. Thanks to a collaboration with the University's IT-Center and the Individual Initiative branch of the AStA RWTH Aachen, it could take place at no cost for ReactOS Deutschland e.V. Many ReactOS developers and community members attended and the overall turnout was very positive. It is planned to establish the ReactOS Hackfest as a regular event.

Due to the rising popularity of ReactOS, it was decided to demonstrate the Operating System at even more exhibitions in 2015. This already began in January, when project members represented the ReactOS Project with a booth at the FOSDEM conference in Brussels. FOSDEM is one of the most popular Open-Source exhibitions in Europe and the ReactOS Project last had a booth there in 2009. ReactOS Deutschland e.V. supported the
presentation by covering the merchandising and travelling expenses.

As every year, the ReactOS Project also attended the Chemnitzer Linux-Tage in March to introduce it to interested people around Germany. Since there was no Berlin LinuxTag in 2015, the Chemnitzer Linux-Tage have become the largest and most important Open-Source event in Germany. Organizing and financing the ReactOS booth was again handled through ReactOS Deutschland e.V.

Given the great results of 2014, ReactOS Deutschland e.V. could also award one more scholarship in March 2015. The scholarship was a great help for the candidate, who in turn could extend his contributions to the project. Due to a lack of suitable candidates, this scholarship remained the only one in 2015.

The infrastructure costs of 2015 mostly result from the payment of a large invoice that covers server hosting for 3 years. Apart from that, an Intel NUC was ordered as a companion to our server farm in Sweden. It is used for regress-testing ReactOS builds under VirtualBox.

Outlook

The ReactOS Project plans to release the long-awaited 0.4 release in 2016 and also the launch of a new website after more than 10 years. This will most likely spark a huge media attention and attract additional donors. ReactOS Deutschland e.V. will continue to support this through financing, handling of donations and providing an adequate infrastructure.

In 2016, members of the Association are also going to represent the ReactOS Project at popular Open-Source exhibitions again.
Finances

**Incomes**

Donations: 2,587.93 €
Membership fees: 600.00 €
Interests: 52.84 €

**Expenses**

Travel expenses: 620.90 €
Advertising costs: 271.10 €
Infrastructure costs (Servers): 4,556.72 €
Infrastructure costs (Domains): 31.69 €
Bank fees: 11.00 €
Other exhibition costs: 103.25 €
Shipping costs: 75.25 €
Specific Research and Development Activities: 235.00 €
Scholarships: 7,337.00 €

**Totals**

Total incomes: 3,240.77 €
Total expenses: 13,241.91 €
Reserves from 2014: 26,925.35 €
Balance on 2015-12-31: 16,924.21 €

Matthias Kupfer (President of the Board)
Daniel Reimer (Vice President)
Colin Finck (Board Member/Treasurer)