Minutes of the General Assembly on 17th December, 2020

Minute taker: Colin Finck

The General Assembly of the Association “ReactOS Deutschland e.V.” took place in the internet (TLS-secured IRC server) on 17th December, 2020 at 20:00 (local German time).

Attendant members

• Matthias Kupfer (President of the Association)
• Daniel Reimer (Vice President of the Association)
• Colin Finck (Treasurer)
• Mark Jansen
• Amine Khaldi

Summary of the decisions

• ReactOS Deutschland e.V. seeks to attend FOSDEM and Chemnitzer Linux-Tage in 2021, even if they only happen as virtual events due to the ongoing pandemic.
• Daniel Reimer is going to use these opportunities to hold short presentations about ReactOS.
• The Board has been discharged of its responsibilities.

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

Aachen, 17th December, 2020
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 2019
Automatically created IRC Log of the General Assembly

Notice: The time is given in UTC. For getting the German time on that day, add one hour.

[16:16] LogBot has joined #generalassembly with voice status
[16:16] VoteBot has joined #generalassembly with voice status
[16:16] Colin_Finck has joined #generalassembly with voice status
[16:16] Mark_Jansen has joined #generalassembly with voice status
[16:16] Matthias_Kupfer has joined #generalassembly with voice status
[16:16] Amine_Khaldi has joined #generalassembly with voice status
[16:16] VoteBot has joined #generalassembly with voice status
[16:16] CLT is one of them so far
[16:16] Matthias_Kupfer: I got the news with interest, I still think participating is a good idea. Of course a final decision can
[16:16] not be done until we get a final plan what will be done
[16:16] Matthias_Kupfer: those are my two points
[16:16] Colin_Finck: point that is nowhere close, but with 2 freelancers hired in 2020, and certainly continuing in 2021, our monetary reserves are
[16:16] limited
[16:16] Colin_Finck: I think the Annual Report 2020 will also talk about our micro-Hackfests via Zoom. I think this year has shown that
[16:16] people everywhere can get very creative when the outside circumstances require it
[16:16] Colin_Finck: anyway, I’ll also stop talking about 2020 now
[16:16] Colin_Finck: 2019 was a very normal year for ReactOS Deutschland e.V. again, as you have hopefully read in the Annual Report
[16:16] Colin_Finck: we attended open-source exhibitions, we participated in Google Summer of Code, and we awarded a scholarship
[16:16] Colin_Finck: hope you have all read that one
[16:16] Matthias_Kupfer: the next point is that our annual report for 2020 is going to be very short due to the current situation and the
[16:16] chemnitz linux days will take place in a very different and still not exactly known way
[16:16] Daniel_Reimer: if we want to pay devs on freelance base, we will be fine quite soon. They cost quite some money
[16:16] Matthias_Kupfer: So, now I want to welcome you to our general assembly 2020
[16:16] Colin_Finck: let's already start with the basic stuff at this point. Christoph is still having technical trouble :(
[16:16] Colin_Finck: Hi Amine_Khaldi! Nice to see that you made it ;)
[16:16] Amine_Khaldi: thanks :)
well, this is basically what I have to say about the current situation. I haven’t thought out this fundraising in detail yet, but I remember that we managed to organize several successful fundraisers in the past.

Daniel_Reimer: you want to continue?

Daniel_Reimer: Yes, one sec.

Daniel_Reimer: Well, this year was special as we all know, so regarding that year’s events I can not say very much except the live online hackFest we had. Was really nice and fun. Regarding next year (2nd time, shy for interfering): I got the news with interest that CLT will be different next year. It will be online. I have no clue yet what this will mean as none has right now (As Matthias already mentioned) but I still think participating is a good idea. Of course a final decision can not be done until we get a final plan what will be done and is planned for the event. And now I am done and Matthias_Kupfer can tell his ideas to it

Matthias_Kupfer: okay, so we will hold a lecture at CLT some years ago (with Aleksey), as long as I don’t expect any “live” activities on site, we should think about a short video lecture in 2021

Matthias_Kupfer: I prefer a funny one, to take the situation not that serious, it can be a meta lecture about the development process in these days or so

Colin_Finck: yeah, it’s really time for more ReactOS presentations

Matthias_Kupfer: we should not count on a booth next year, because this will most likely not happen

Mark_Jansen: Speaking of presentations, we would also need some video material for FOSDEM 2021, they have presented plans for an online event.

Mark_Jansen: I mentioned this on the mailing list (ros-dev) to see if there is interest in participating

Matthias_Kupfer: please submit an entry which is referencing a short presentation or something like this instead of a live presentation

Matthias_Kupfer: only lately I’ve figured out that visitors mostly come for the talks, not for the booths

Colin_Finck: even with our annual booths at FOSDEM, I’m pretty sure we are nearly invisible to many visitors

Mark_Jansen: yeah

Mark_Jansen: there are the yearly recurring visitors

Daniel_Reimer: Oh there are indeed

Matthias_Kupfer: We could sit down together with the FODEM team and make two presentations off it

Matthias_Kupfer: Daniel_Reimer: please submit an entry which is referencing a short presentation or something like this instead of a live presentation

Daniel_Reimer: OK, on my weekend agenda then

Matthias_Kupfer: it’s possible until 18th of January

Mark_Jansen: fosdem until dec 25th

Daniel_Reimer: OK, so I think both opportunities should be used.

Daniel_Reimer: Fine with me, Daniel_Reimer if you have questions ask, because the options are a little bit different this year

Colin_Finck: I’m all for it, but I’m afraid someone else has to lead those opportunities. I’m all busy till the end of the year. :( Matthew just won’t have any time to organize for fosdem

Daniel_Reimer: Matthew has merely noticed their mail and dropped it on the ML

Daniel_Reimer: I can lead CLT as I normally do. FOSDEM… never came in touch with it yet

Matthias_Kupfer: Mark_Jansen: are you able just to register, if you get all information?

Mark_Jansen: anyone is?

Mark_Jansen: Matthias_Kupfer ok, registration is possible already?

Daniel_Reimer: We could sit down together with the FODEM team and make two presentations off it

Mark_Jansen: Matthias_Kupfer: Daniel_Reimer: please submit an entry which is referencing a short presentation or something like this instead of a live presentation

Colin_Finck: I think someone here should register and we can collaborate with the work of the community, which is already maintaining our Twitter and YouTube presence

Matthias_Kupfer: okay, I think we can use almost the same content for both events

Colin_Finck: we always handed out the same flyer in English at FOSDEM and in German at CLT :D

Daniel_Reimer: a English and German presentation then

Mark_Jansen: yeah, didn’t we deploy that pile at fosdem this year?

Matthias_Kupfer: think so

Matthias_Kupfer: Colin_Finck: finally time to update screenshots :) I think someone here should register and we can collaborate with the work of the community, which is already maintaining our Twitter and YouTube presence

Mark_Jansen: I’ve opened the Open Source Firmware Conference recently. They used https://hopin.com

Colin_Finck: tries to resemble the possibilities of a physical event as closely as possible

Daniel_Reimer: Never heard of it. Interesting

Matthias_Kupfer: Who has already attended to FOSDEM in past

Colin_Finck: RACTIN puts his hand up

Mark_Jansen: me

Colin_Finck: many project members actually, just not here today

Matthias_Kupfer: Or we just use the same text from CLT

Colin_Finck: So Daniel_Reimer just fill in the data twice :) I think someone here should register and we can collaborate with the work of the community, which is already maintaining our Twitter and YouTube presence

Mark_Jansen: yeah Daniel, finally your first FOSDEM! :D

Daniel_Reimer: But then the text needs to be done earlier… Ok, I will try to fiddle something together the weekend

Daniel_Reimer: yayay, FOSDEM

Daniel_Reimer: :P

Colin_Finck: ok, I’m afraid we have discussed this topic to end and none of the remaining members are going to make it in time

Colin_Finck: only the vote regarding the discharge of the Board’s responsibilities according to the Annual Report 2019 is left

Matthias_Kupfer: okay, so Mark_Jansen you mentioned that you are going to move this year

Matthias_Kupfer: has any address changed over the year?

Daniel_Reimer: No. (not mine at least)

Mark_Jansen: sadly, finding an affordable apartment here has proven to be a disappointment :( I think someone here should register and we can collaborate with the work of the community, which is already maintaining our Twitter and YouTube presence

Mark_Jansen: Matthias_Kupfer: okay, so I summarize: all addresses are unchanged

Colin_Finck: seems so

Matthias_Kupfer: Then we have to come to point 2, or are there any questions to the annual report (elft)?

Matthias_Kupfer: left

Mark_Jansen: not from me

Daniel_Reimer: No

Colin_Finck: ok, I’ll set up the vote then

Matthias_Kupfer: if not we move to the discharge of the board, and today it’s literally: every vote counts and can change the outcome

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Matthias_Kupfer: If not we move to the discharge of the board, and today it’s literally: every vote counts and can change the outcome

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

Colin_Finck: Excluded from voting:

Colin_Finck: Daniel_Reimer

Colin_Finck: Matthias_Kupfer

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

Colin_Finck: Question: Do you agree with discharging the responsibilities of the Board? (in German: “Sprechen Sie dem Vorstand Entlastung aus?”

Colin_Finck: Answers:

Abstention - 0 votes

Yes - 2 votes

No - 0 votes

Total number of votes: 2

Colin_Finck: yayay! :)

Matthias_Kupfer: thank you, but it has to be pretty close

Daniel_Reimer: 0

Colin_Finck: Thanks a lot :)
Are there any more things to discuss here?

Colin_Finck: ok, then the formal part of this year’s General Assembly is basically over.

Mark_Jansen: I think we can discuss informal things in mattermost.

Daniel_Reimer: Time to head back to Mattermost.

Matthias_Kupfer: Daniel_Reimer: write me a message if you need some help.

Colin_Finck: for next year, we should seek to get more ReactOS members to join ReactOS Deutschland e.V. and make it less lonely here ;)

Daniel_Reimer: Matthias_Kupfer will do if things become difficult :D

Daniel_Reimer: thx.

Matthias_Kupfer: I wish you (nevertheless) a merry Christmas and a happy New Year, stay healthy and try to survive as comfortable as possible.

Daniel_Reimer: Same from my side. Soon..., I guess we get back to normal.

Colin_Finck: it took us some time, but with all meetings being in English now, we can easily add non-German people as e.V. members.

Mark_Jansen: same from me.

Mark_Jansen: like me ;)

Colin_Finck: Board elections are also up for next year’s General Assembly.

Daniel_Reimer: Mark_Jansen I would no be surprised if you speak a better German than some ppl in Bavaria do ^^.

Mark_Jansen: I should be able to, but not really :t

Colin_Finck: with Pierre not making it today and being generally unavailable for ReactOS work these days, I don’t expect him to run for a Board position again.

Colin_Finck: so I’m pretty sure the Board is going to change again next year.

Daniel_Reimer: We will see. Maybe he comes back sooner than expected.

Colin_Finck: looking at his current employment on LinkedIn, I doubt that he’ll come back.

Colin_Finck: anyway, this is not the place for rumors.

Colin_Finck: just wanted to stress the fact that people can already start thinking about running for a Board position.

Daniel_Reimer: One year where things will happen, maybe there are few more members then and we are set.

Daniel_Reimer: As already said, stay safe and corona free. See you over in Mattermost.

Daniel_Reimer has quit the server (End of file)

Mark_Jansen has quit the server (QUIT)

Amine_Khaldi: cheers!

Amine_Khaldi has quit the server (QUIT)
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 2019. It is separated into Activities, Outlook, and Finances. The primary purpose of the Association lies in the support of the ReactOS Project. In 2019, the main tasks were:

- Organizing the ReactOS Hackfest 2019
- Organizing the participation in Google Summer of Code
- Presenting the project on popular exhibitions/events

### 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

During the beginning of 2019, the ReactOS Project evaluated “Mattermost” as a modern alternative to the long-time IRC system used for project communication. While such big moves are never without frictions, the system was overall deemed to be better than IRC for ReactOS needs. Therefore, ReactOS Deutschland e.V. negotiated a special 3-year nonprofit license for Mattermost Enterprise Edition in March. The system is running smoothly since then.

Although ReactOS was not present at FOSDEM this year, project members again attended the Chemnitzer Linux-Tage in March to show off the latest developments. As every year, ReactOS Deutschland e.V. did its part to support ReactOS’ presence at this event.

Around the same time, a former Google Summer of Code student and now active ReactOS developer also reached out to the Association regarding a scholarship. Due to his student status, detailed proposal, and proven track record of working on ReactOS, he was awarded a scholarship by ReactOS Deutschland e.V. The positive financial situation of the past years made it possible to easily finance that scholarship throughout the rest of the year. The Association would have had funds for even more scholarships, but due to the lack of suitable candidates, this one remained the only one in 2019.
From May through September, the ReactOS Project again participated in the annual Google Summer of Code event, where Google pays university students to work on selected Open-Source projects. Three students were accepted in 2019, with two of them completing their work successfully and delivering high-quality additions to ReactOS. Consequently, Google awarded $4200 to the Association for successful completion of the program and covering the expenses of up to two people to the Mentor Summit. This opportunity was taken by two ReactOS mentors, who travelled to Munich in November and exchanged experiences with mentors of other open-source projects.

ReactOS Deutschland e.V. organized another ReactOS Hackfest in 2019, from 15th to 20th August. It took place in the same room as the previous year sponsored by IN-Berlin e.V., with a similar number of attendees. Due to the positive financial situation, the Association could cover accommodation and travel expenses of multiple attendees.

The Hackfest opportunity was also used to design and print new ReactOS merchandising for qualified project and Association members. Shirts for project members were last printed in 2010, hence most of the current members did not have any or only worn out ReactOS shirts. The new shirts and hoodies were well-received and we hope that they greatly improve the representation of ReactOS on exhibitions and conferences.

The overhauled ReactOS infrastructure from 2018 proved its reliability in 2019. The only notable change was the addition of another virtual machine for the new Mattermost collaboration service. Apart from that, the infrastructure mostly received regular maintenance.

Outlook

ReactOS Deutschland e.V. will continue to support the ReactOS Project in 2020. We are looking forward to present the project on multiple open-source exhibitions and hope to get accepted into the 2020 edition of Google Summer of Code. We are also going to extend our search for suitable candidates for scholarships and paid development.

After four successful Hackfests in Germany, the Association seeks to organize a Hackfest in a different country next year. This is expected to be an eastern European country due to the large ReactOS community in that region.
## Finances

### Incomes
- Donations: 14,632.41 €
- Google Summer of Code Student Mentoring: 3,736.92 €
- Sale of Merchandising: 442.80 €

### Expenses
- Scholarships: 5,652.50 €
- Travel expenses: 4,812.75 €
- Infrastructure costs (Servers): 2,027.90 €
- Merchandising for Project and Association Members: 739.37 €
- Mattermost Enterprise Edition Nonprofit 3-year License: 223.39 €
- Currency Exchange Adjustment Posting: 47.31 €
- Bank fees: 41.93 €
- Infrastructure costs (Domains): 32.32 €
- Shipping costs: 26.99 €
- Notary and tax consulting costs: 20.00 €

### Totals
- Total incomes: 18,812.13 €
- Total expenses: 13,624.46 €
- Reserves from 2018: 49,372.24 €
- Balance on 2019-12-31: 54,559.91 €

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