

The GNOME Foundation

About the GNOME Foundation

By

Anne Østergaard

aoe@gnome.org

Member of The GNOME Foundation.

Presented Saturday 31st
at LinuxTag 2008 in Berlin.

The GNOME Foundation

Content

1. GNOME as an organization.
2. By-laws.
3. Membership of GNOME.
4. Elections and annual meetings.
5. The Board of Directors.
6. Committees.
7. GUADEC.

The GNOME Foundation

- The GNOME Foundation.
- A California Non-profit Public Benefit Corporation.
- By-laws from March 16, 2001.
- Office: The principal office is for the time being in Boston, USA.
- The Board can at any time establish or subordinate offices where GNOME is qualified to do business.

The GNOME Foundation

- GOAL:
- Objectives shall include charitable and educational purposes according to “International Revenue Code” of the United States internal revenue law.
- TAX- EXEMPT STATUS:
- Under the Section 501(c) (3) of the US Internal Revenue Code.

The GNOME Foundation Membership

Membership will be determined on a case - by- case basis, at the sole discretion of the Board and the Membership Committee.

Any contributor to GNOME shall be eligible for membership.

By-laws.

The GNOME Foundation Membership

CONTRIBUTOR:

A “contributor” shall be defined as any individual who has contributed to a non-trivial improvement of the GNOME Project.

Large amounts of advocacy or bug reporting may qualify one as contributor.

TERM:

The term of membership is 2 years.

The GNOME Foundation Membership

It is important to GNOME to keep the members active and inspired in order to have the best possibilities of finding new eager members for the working groups as well as to fill other functions of our successful organization.

The GNOME Foundation Membership

- NON-LIABILITY:
- No member shall be personally responsible for the debts, liabilities or obligations of the GNOME Foundation.
- MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS:
- Annual meetings takes place during the core days of GUADEC.

The GNOME Foundation Election of the Board

Election of the Directors takes place by electronic voting.

Only foundation members can vote.

The GNOME Foundation Election of the Board

Restriction on interested Directors:

- Only two Directors employed by the same company.
- Conflict of interest.

The GNOME Foundation Directors

- Number and qualifications of Directors.
- Directors in office may fill in vacancies.
- A Director shall be a member.
- The initial number of Directors shall be eleven (11) now changed to seven (7).

The GNOME Foundation

Directors powers

- GENERAL CORPORATE POWERS:
 - Exercised, by or under direction of the Board.
- SPECIFIC POWERS:
 - Select and remove all officers, agents and employees.
 - Prescribe any powers and duties under the law and by-laws and fix their compensation.

The GNOME Foundation Directors powers

- Change the principal executive office.
- Designate any place for holding of any members meetings, including annual meetings.
- Collect money.
- Borrow money.
- Spend money.

The GNOME Foundation

- CONDUCT OF MEETINGS:
- The President / Chairman presides.
- The Secretary acts as secretary.

The GNOME Foundation Directors

- CONDUCT OF MEETINGS:
- Decisions needs a quorum.

The GNOME Foundation

The Board of Directors

- How does the board work?
- Board meetings every two weeks (conference calls).
- Very busy mailing list between meetings to take care of day to day business.
- Support global as well as local initiatives.
- Employee(s)

The GNOME Foundation Board of Directors

- BOARD ROLES:
- President/Chairman: Behdad Esfahbod
- Vice-President/Vice-chairman: Lucas Rocha
- Treasurer: John Palmieri
- Secretary: Luis Villa
- Brian Cameron
- Vincent Untz
- Jeff Waugh

The GNOME Foundation Action by Written Ballot

- Action without meeting by written ballot:
- Such ballot shall set forth the proposed action, provide an opportunity to specify approval or disapproval of any proposal, and provide a reasonable time within which to return the ballot to the corporation.

The GNOME Foundation Committees

- Legal
- Membership + Elections
- Infrastructure
- Marketing
- GUADEC
- Release

The GNOME Foundation Committees

- Each committee may adopt rules for its government not inconsistent with the by-laws or with rules adopted by the board.

The GNOME Foundation Advisory Board

- The role of the GNOME Advisory Board is to follow and give advice on old and new initiatives.
- Try to assist and encourage ongoing work.
- Advisory Board Members pay a yearly fee.
- AB Meetings are held 3-4 times a year.
- One being a meeting in person during GUADEC.

The GNOME Foundation Annual Report

- The first GNOME Annual Report was published and sent out to Friends of GNOME in 2006.
- Deployments.
- Women Summer Outreach Program and GsoC.
- Distribution Report
- GUADEC and Boston Summit Reports.
- GNOME Event Box.
- GNOME Mobile.

The GNOME Foundation

New Initiatives

- New initiatives welcome:
- One thing the Board wants to see happen in 2008, is more hacker feasts.
- The fact that the first GTK+ Hackfest was a success is a good sign that we should do this kind of event more often.
- To make this happen, we need help from the community to come up with ideas of hack feasts. We also need help from volunteers to lead this effort.

10 years of GUADEC

- Paris, France
- Copenhagen, Denmark
- Seville, Spain
- Dublin, Ireland
- Kristiansand, Norway
- Stuttgart, Germany
- Villanova i la Geltrú, Spain
- Birmingham, United Kingdom
- Istanbul, Turkey in July 2008

GNOME Foundation

Other Annual Events

- Australia
- Brazil
- India
- Others..
- The GNOME Boston Summit
- The GUADEMY

Besides GNOME wants to be present at as many regional, national, and local events as possible.

Thank you for your attention!

Questions?

Anne Østergaard
aoe@gnome.org

Slides available at
www.easterbridge.com