

MEETING SUMMARY December 2, 2020

Date and Time: Wednesday, 2 December 2020 at 4:00pm Mountain time

Where: Online: Zoom

Committee Attendees: Joe Dehn, Ed Fochler, James Gholston, Andrew Kolstee

Other Attendees: none

The meeting was called to order at 4:25pm Mountain time.

Records of Past Meetings: The minutes of the 4 November meeting were approved.

General LPedia: There was an outage on 28 November as the hosting company upgraded to a new version of Mediawiki. Basic functionality was restored that day, but analytics are no longer working. Also there appear to have been some changes to the user interface, specifically the editor.

Templates/Categories/Assessments: There was a discussion of the dividing line between "Stub" and "Start". During a recent informal meeting it had been suggested that an article with fewer than five "items" (sentences, lists, tables, an info box, images, etc.) should be considered a Stub; it was agreed to go with that rule for now.

There was discussion of appropriate assessment for articles about LNC electronic meetings, specifically whether it was proper to label them "Stubs" if they contain only a few items since this is generally the case. A few samples were reviewed and it appeared that there was additional information that could have been included in them. It was agreed that they should be assessed the same way as other articles, as "Stub" or "Start" based on how many items they include. (But as with any other article some other assessment could be appropriate if a particular article really does contain all the information that could be included for an article of that type.)

James suggested a need for better defining terms like "activist" and "engineer", because this would help him with an automated process he is developing. There was general agreement that "activist" includes anybody who did something for the LP, specifically including officers, candidates, editors, petitioners, booth workers, and other volunteers. Further discussion of other terms was deferred until we have a



better understanding of the automated process being developed and the role that such definitions would play in it.

There was discussion of the name of the category for templates relating to infoboxes, as some are now in "Infobox" and some in "Infobox Templates"; it was agreed to standardize on the latter. James said we need an infobox template for meetings, and asked that the person infobox allow for a date to be just a single year (rather than a range); Andrew will look into these ideas.

Joe reported that the "Needs" template has now been documented. James added a "links" parameter but it needs to be clarified whether this means that the article in question should have a "Links" section added or that somebody needs to go through and create wikilinks in the text.

Site Statistics: Ed reported that in the most recent period (up until the analytics stopped working) traffic from China was continuing at about the same level while other traffic had declined in the post-election period, resulting in the China traffic now accounting for more than the other traffic; this made the detailed statistics, e.g., regarding which pages are popular, fairly meaningless. Ed will look into whether there is some way of addressing this, either with the analytics system we were previously using (assuming we can get that working again) or something else.

Site Technical: Ed reported that he will need to set up a new virtual "backup server" (replacing the current one) with updated software that supports the new version of Mediawiki.

Nolan Archive: Caryn Ann has been communicating with Joe Bishop-Henchmen about this topic.

Google Group: We still need a notice to the old mailing list making clear that we will no longer be using it as of 1 January.

Committee Membership: There was discussion of followup with the eight candidates that had been identified as most likely to be of interest. It was agreed that even though the process of setting up interviews has been delayed, we should still go ahead and let those people know they are welcome to attend our meetings and that we would be interested in having them start working on LPedia.



Zoom Arrangements: There was discussion of our inability to make use of the Zoom account when the Chair is unavailable (which led to cancellation of the previous meeting and having to use a different account for this one). It was agreed that we need some arrangement which allows the meeting to start with any subset of the committee present, which could be accomplished either using an account where all members have "host" privilege or by setting the meeting up with a password. Caryn Ann will be asked to investigate if either or both could be done with the account we have been using, otherwise we will switch to using a different account.

Future Meetings: The next meeting is scheduled for 16 December 2020.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:23pm Mountain time.