

BeVolunteer Annual Report 2011 – 2012

1. Short Overview of Main Activities

- We changed servers and providers, moving on to Hetzner which runs on renewable energy
- A new decision-making process was created: http://www.bewelcome.org/wiki/s1570-BW_needs_a_decision_making_process_Let_s_make_one
- There have been two spikes on our statistics due to other migration from other hospexp networks. Currently our member base counts approaches the 25,000 mark.
- We had our first structured donation campaign which raised 1,000 euro in less than 3 months. Publicity was done through one Newsletter and a Donation Bar (which was removed once the 1,000 euro was reached).
- The possible collaboration between BW and Servas reaches a dead end.
- We decided to concentrate all our efforts on BeWelcome and therefore we cancelled beacademy.org

2. Structural Activities by the Board of Directors (BoD)

- The BoD has been holding monthly meetings (9 in total).
- The BoD tried to activate BW volunteers to become BV members. Some showed interest but in the end there were only 2 new members: wind & jsfan
- Organization of the annual General Assembly (GA)
 - o This will take place in two parts:
 - Online from 24 September till 30 September 2012
 - Real-life meeting on 13 & 14 October in Halle/Saale (Germany)

3. BeWelcome Teams Activities

- Software Development:
 - o New coordinator for rox: planetcruiser
 - o There have been regular bug fixes, announced on the start page
 - o We are one release away of moving to OpenStreetMap
 - o Activity has been very low on Drupal, a change to a different framework (Symfony2) is being considered
- Member Support
 - o Coordinator: claudiaab
 - o OTRS went down with the old servers, and a temporary Gmail account was set up to be used by the volunteers. OTRS is back now with the new server.
 - o More volunteers joined, and feedback is answered faster now. We have dedicated volunteers for some languages (English, French, German) but we could still need more volunteers for Russian, Spanish, ...)

Forum Moderation

- There is much more activity in the BW forum, which comes with more trolling. More moderators are needed
- There has been a new banning policy: warning and temporary ban on the scale of: 3, 7, 30, 365 days for repeated offenders
- Translation
 - New languages added to the website (at the request of volunteers willing to translate): Slovakian, Hindi, Gaelic, and Breton.
 - New Translation volunteers: 31 on September 15th
 - 37 languages are currently available
 - More than 90%: French, English, Spanish, German, Catalan, Italian
 - More than 60%: Lithuanian, Dutch, Croatian, Finnish, Portuguese
 - More than 30%: Russian, Portuguese (Brazilian), Polish, Danish, Latvian, Hungarian, Turkish, Esperanto, Chinese, Romanian
 - More than 10%: Bulgarian, Indonesian, Serbian, Arabic, Swedish, Persian, Japanese, Swahili, Hebrew, Greek, Irish, Czech
 - Less than 10%: Norwegian, Basque, Estonian
- Safety
 - Currently a team consisting of 5 members
 - No serious abuse case reported
 - 2 complaints of profile stalking
 - One contact by the French Police for information about a member, no official demand has been filed yet
 - Some spam attacks in January, resulting in a messaging limit for members without positive comments
 - Several problems with mass spam in profile references -> this issue has been handed over to the development team
 - More volunteers needed who can act quickly in case of reported spam and fake profiles.
- Communication
 - Newsletters: three were sent: December 2011, April 2012, September 2012
 - The blog on the first page is used more intensively
- Accepting of members
 - This is no longer needed, as anybody can sign up through automatic acceptance.
 - No longer necessary to enter street name, only City and Region/Country necessary

4. Meetings

- Members from Toulouse organised a BW/Seek-The-Duck meeting
 - 80 members joined over the weekend
- Hackaton will be organised in Brussels: <http://www.bewelcome.org/forums/s2755>