

IGDA Scotland Board Meeting
23rd July 2013

Attendance - LD, RR, BM

The minutes of meeting held on 12th June were reviewed and accepted as true.

Financial Update

Luke discussed the current state of finances for the Chapter. For the year to date, we currently have a £104 deficit, with the large part of that coming from the new business cards for GDC. The Develop breakfast was £18 over budget. On the whole, things are looking optimistic as we head towards having proper sponsorship organised, which is expected to offset the current deficit.

Progress is being made towards the "Sponsorship Menu", Luke has collected the potential sponsorable items from the chapter's normal operation. As part of the sponsorship efforts, the website has been moved away from Wordpress free hosting to a private server so that we can run our own ads and have more control over the site.

Governance

To date we have operated without formally adopting a set of Bylaws for the chapter, and making reference to the Model Bylaws provided by IGDA Global as appropriate. However with elections pending, we need to formalise these more than just making reference, and in places they need to be adapted to suit the circumstances we have in IGDA Scotland. Luke has drafted a version of the Bylaws, with changes from the 2007 Boston revision highlighted, which has been circulated to the Board for comment and will be revisited at the August meeting to vote on adoption.

Elections are for a two year term, which means that Brian and Luke are reaching the end of their term on the Board. The anticipation is that the election result should be announced in early November, meaning that the nomination period should begin in early October at the latest. The current model of having the full board rotate in and out at the same time on a two-yearly basis was deemed unsuitable, so the election will seek to bring on around half of the maximum board size, with the anticipation of adding the second half the subsequent year to achieve a rolling rotation of board members.

Events

July Meeting - Brian summarised meeting preparations for the July chapter meeting. All things appear to be in hand, panelists are ready to go and volunteer assistance has been recruited.

Dare Protoplay / Indie Fest - Dare have offered an excellent discount to members of the IGDA for £25 off the price of admission. This is being marketed as an excellent opportunity to get almost the full price of membership back in a tangible discount. Dare have also invited Luke to chair their Game Jam and are open to exploring a booth presence or similar. Brian is available to attend one day, although after the experience at Game In Scotland, we would also likely need volunteer support to help man the booth effectively. Brian and Luke to liaise with Dare to establish what is possible and required.

August and September Meetings - Due to the schedule changes in August and September, these are both close together. Brian has taken ownership of delivering both. Pecha Kucha was discussed as a possible format, and Brian expressed a concern that it has been some time since we showed talks dealing in-depth with technical topic. Luke mentioned the possibility for a remote speaker to discuss a technical issue as part of the proceedings. Since connectivity in the Admiral Bar is an issue, it was agreed that running Pecha Kucha in Glasgow made more sense, and holding the technical session to Dundee in September.

Social Media Coordinator

Per the previous Board meeting, Luke has taken Brian Beacom up on his offer to help manage the Chapter's social media presence. Brian has already suggested some great strategies for further developing our social media, and having one person dedicated to this makes for a much more coherent tone, as well as freeing the Board up from worrying that posts are being made on time etc. In keeping with previous discussion, Brian will draft posts for review by a Board member, who will then schedule the posts. The Board discussed content that would be appropriate to be posted and agreed that in general we would avoid studio news and recruitment posts to maintain delineation between IGDA Scotland and SGN, but would continue to support other community organisations such as UKIE, BAFTA and others with retweets etc.

Executive Advisory Board

The idea of an Executive Advisory Board was discussed. The idea is that this would help act as a steering committee by offering high level advice on direction, as well as acting in some ways as a Stage 3 Board of Directors - that is to say, helping in places with fundraising and networking. The expected involvement of the EAB would be low, and in general seats would be given to senior industry figures in the community. The board agreed in principle that this was a good idea, and would explore it further as well as start evaluating potential candidates to approach.

Actions

- **Whole Board**
 - Review Bylaws and suggest changes with a view to ratifying the Bylaws at August Board meeting
 - Expand further on Executive Advisory Board idea through email
- **Brian**
 - Ownership of August and September meetings
- **Luke**
 - Progress sponsorship initiative
 - Approach remote speakers for September meeting
- **Romana and Brian**
 - Feed further info on expected costs to Sponsorship
- **Brian and Luke**
 - Work to establish feasibility of presence at Dare