Organizing a Board of Trustees

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Speaker: Reke Wang

Wikimedia Taiwan



About me

◆Work for **Wikimedia Taiwan**

- Founded in 2007, and held Wikimania in the same year.
- 40 members, 12 board members (9 directors + 3 supervisors),2 FTE staff
- ◆You can call me: **Reke**
 - Wikipedia editing seniority: 12 years
 - Secretary General of WMTW for 3 years
 - Active project: zhwp / commons / wikidata / meta



Do You Really Need a Board?

Board required

- Requested by local laws
- When the organization needs some strategic discussing

Board not needed

- Need some core workers only
- Need some titles to social

Functions of the Board

- Represents members to exercise power
- Plans and runs the strategies
- Hires and manages staffs

You might invite them to be Board members

- Active editors of Wikimedia community
- Friends of core members
- Someone who has several organizing skills
- Strangers from open-recruiting

Are they competent - Active editors

Advantage:

- ✓ Know community well
- ✓ Compassionate

◆Improvement needed:

- * Lack of organizational governance experience or skills
- Imagination limited by wiki-experience
- Conflict of interest

Are they competent -Friends

Advantage:

- ✓ Easy to communicate and work with
- ✓ Easy to get in touch with

◆Improvement needed:

- * Might not have governance skills
- * Might cause cliquey

Are they competent - Professional people

◆Advantage:

- ✓ Their skills might help the development of movement
- ✓ Bring some visions from other fields

◆Improvement needed:

- * Might not familiar with wiki-culture or community
- * Might not interested in participating the movement

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Good board member conditions

- •Be within the local law
- Active
- Good communication skills
- Diversify members' identities and skills
- Have ability of organize governance

Help your Board to grow up

- Seek and distribute learning opportunities
- Record every experience
- Set up good dialogue

Thanks for your attention