

EFA Board Meeting

14 January 2019

Attendance

Board Members: Liam Pomfret, Liz Williams, Shaun Haddrill, Justin Warren, Yassmin Abdel-Magied, Lyndsey Jackson, Richard Prangell
Guests: Angus Murray (non-voting)

Apologies

Peter Tonoli

Introductions

Acceptance of minutes from previous meeting

Motion: To accept the minutes from the previous board meeting
Motioned by Lyndsey - Seconded by Yassmin
Shaun abstained, as was not present for previous meeting
Carried on voices

Declaration of interests (Disclose conflicts of interest relevant to the agenda)

None noted

Update for board members on status of minutes from AGM meeting

Liam has now received the AGM attendance and chat log from Lachlan. The recording of the meeting has not yet been received (the file Lachlan sent through which was supposed to be a zip of the recording didn't contain expected contents).

Discussion on EFA Policy Team (w/ Angus)

Angus updated the board regarding the policy team, answered board members questions about past policy team actions and interactions, and participated in a discussion about where we should move with the team in 2019

- Policy team hasn't been reconstituted since the election of the new board
- Policy team has previously had a number of communication issues, underuse of the Riot set up
- Current status quo holding pattern not desirable moving forward. Volume of activity significantly down last year from 2014/2015.
- Angus is willing to take up the leadership of the team again
- If particular members are to be excluded from the policy team for whatever reason, the reasons for this need to be clearly stated. The team has previously ground to a halt when there has been conflict on the policy team list.
- Any perceived or actual conflict within the policy team has significantly reduced output of the policy team

- Policy team list should be laser focused on policy

Angus made several suggestions regarding the policy team

- To reconstitute the policy team to refresh for 2019
- To take expressions of interest from the broader membership about participation in the policy team
- To prepare an induction pack for (new) members of the policy team, to give clear direction on exactly what the purpose of the policy team is, how people can contribute, and basic information regarding our existing policies
- For the board to capitalize on the 25th year anniversary of EFA, to take a more active role in directing the policy team towards specific tasks, outlining specifically what is expected from the team and behaviour, etc
- Board to give formal mandate

Liz suggests that board approve new members of the policy team from expressions of interest

Lyndsey proposes we tackle these issues as an action item to be completed within the next month.

Liz offers to take leadership, and support Angus on drafting this up.

Lyndsey volunteers Peter to also assist with this, as he has been the board's liaison to the policy team.

Angus requests if the board can please resolve these issues prior to the next board meeting (in mid-February).

Identify, acknowledge and assess new member applications

No objections raised to any of the new member applicants since last meeting
All applicants accepted

Update for board members on status of minutes from AGM meeting

Documents received from Lachlan, will be prepared by Liam over next month

Discussion on EFA International Engagement

Liz to share some documents with the board regarding international engagement
Liz has signed up to the ICCAN meeting in Kobe, will represent EFA there

Other Item (brought forward)

Liz requests that EFA financials should be a standing item on the board agenda moving forward, to keep board fully apprised as to the current financial situation, and avoid problems that have faced previous boards

Discussion on Roles & Responsibilities of Board Members

Due to the nature of EFA, we have to be a working board, covering both governance and admin

Board members requested to fill out the board skills matrix

Justin has been working on draft of Roles and Responsibilities document. Document shared with the board.

Lyndsey commits to help in completing this draft

Lyndsey notes a need for systems team refresh, in the same way that the policy team is being refreshed, can be done simultaneously with policy refresh

(Liz had to drop from the Zoom call at this time)

Status Update on Twitter Policy

Lyndsey and Liam haven't yet had a chance to complete this

Lyndsey and Liam to meet and make initial draft of usage guidelines

2019 Federal Election Campaigning

Liam requests everyone look at the 2016 Questionnaire, offer opinions on questions that need to be added/removed

Liam also requests people identify specific independent candidates who we may send this out to

(Shaun had to drop from the Zoom call at this time)

Administrative issues

Access to systems

Peter not here to discuss

Issues should now be resolved, contact Peter if issues remain.

Board Email List

NOTED: Shaun suggested prior to the meeting that we simply forward the Board Management list to the Board Only list

Circular Resolutions

NOTED: Discussed prior to meeting that circular resolutions should be noted in board minutes for following board meeting

Fund Raising & Org Memberships

Pushed to next meeting due to board members having had to leave early

Other Business

Issues with member behaviour

Should attempt to allow as many members to contribute as possible, but board has a duty of care to members regarding behaviour of members. Potential for disruptive behaviour must be considered in membership of teams.

(Circular): Posts by [a specific member] are currently being moderated before publication to the EFA Member Discuss mailing list, following the board receiving complaints from non-board members about their conduct on that list.

Reincorporation

Richard asks for update on this issue

Justin gives background information, outlines issues that need to be resolved, have to go to AGM or SGM to have members approve an updated constitution with more properly covers corner cases, etc, that the 2016 model constitution did not (properly) address, in particular the migration of members

Richard raises issues of asset transfer, windup procedures, etc.

Richard volunteers to take point on this issue

To be added as a standard agenda item for updates through the year