

**OFA XWG Meeting
March 1, 2018
11am Mountain**

1. Roll Call:

Board Members:

At-Large / Bob Noseworthy
Broadcom / Eddie Wai
Cray/Paul Grun
HPE / Andy Riebs
Huawei / Daqi Ren
IBM / Bernard Metzler
Intel / Divya Kolar
Jump Trading / Christoph Lameter
LANL / Susan Coulter
LLNL / Matt Leininger
Mellanox / Gilad Shainer
NetApp / David Dale
Oak Ridge / Scott Atchley
Oracle / David Brean
RedHat/Doug Ledford
Sandia / Mike Aguilar

Also present:

LANL/Jesse Martinez
Mellanox/Bill Lee
OFA/Jim Ryan
Intel/Paul Bowden
LANL/Parks Fields
Intel/Bob Woodruff

2. Approve XWG minutes from 2/22

- A motion to approved the minutes from 8 February was made by: Michael Aguilar (Sandia). The motion was seconded by Divya Kolar (Intel). The minutes were unanimously approved.

3. Continued Mission Discussion

A tentative Mission Statement for delivery to the OFA Board is as follows:

- *The mission of the OFA is to benefit the developers and consumers of advanced network technologies across various underlying network fabrics by supporting and evolving existing fabric software and incubating new software technologies in order to accelerate the development and adoption of advanced fabrics technologies (advanced networks?).*

- This tentative Mission State was created using the information gained from previous meetings. The information used was:
 - For both existing and emerging fabrics, the OFA:
 - Enables the development of fabric software
 - Provides an infrastructure for collaboration and communication
 - Evangelizes fabric technologies
 - Provides programs such as training, testing, validation, and education
 - Proactively engages with related organizations such as SNIA, Linux kernel communities, and others.
- The XWG continued a detailed discussion designed to lead the XWG/Board toward consensus about the OFA's current mission.
- This discussion, when concluded, is expected to be the near-culmination of the project to re-structure the OFA's Bylaws.
- The process agreed to by the XWG is to hold detailed, interactive discussions on the four elements that comprise a good mission statement which are:
 - What is that we do (produce)?
 - What outcomes and artifacts does the OFA create?
 - *We drive technology by fostering open source software development. Are we performing the task of? Incubation, collaboration, evangelization?*
 - *The OFA supports the development of open source software for networking.*
 - *The OFA incubates new fabric technologies with the goal of moving them into open source (for the common good?)*
 - We support and maintain existing fabric technologies.
 - Who is it for?
 - End-Users whose applications that depend upon the network fabrics to achieve application performance reliability or scalability goals.
 - Those who create networking middleware such as MPI, or who create user-level applications that rely directly on network services for performance, reliability, and scalability.
 - Storage vendors and those who rely on high performance networks to access storage
 - Operating System vendors.
 - System OEMs,
 - How does the OFA do what it does?
 - The OFA provides an environment and infrastructure for collaboration, communication, and education to support fabric technologies.
 - We enable the development of fabric software. The OFA doesn't license software.

- We create outreach by evangelizing about fabric technologies including emerging usages for such technologies.
- We provide programs to support emerging fabric technologies such as training, testing, and validation.
- We proactively outreach to related organizations and communities such as SNIA, Linux kernel communities, and others.
- What is the value of what the OFA does?
 - What is our reason for being?
 - *Our value is that we accelerate the development and adoption of fabric technologies to enable portable solutions. Alternatively: We support the development of open source software for networking.*