

OIX 2023 Annual General Meeting  
Tuesday, 5 Dec 2023  
11am-12pm CT – Google Meet

## Draft Minutes

### Attendees

Chris Grundemann, Vice Chair  
Brad Raymo, Treasurer  
Ilissa Miller, Director  
Phil Koblenz, Director  
Mona Weisberg, Director  
Paul Emmons, IX Committee Chair  
Karlin Younger, Product Committee Member  
Matt Trifiro, Product Committee Chair  
Sunshine Buchholz, Admin Team Member  
Shawna Bong, Admin Team Member  
Matt Griswold  
Sameer Gahlot  
Jean-Francis Ahanda

Minutes: Sunshine Buchholz, Admin Team Member

#### 1. Call To Order – Shawna Bong (11:02 am CT)

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. General Organization Update:

OIX has continued to grow and thrive over the past year. We have been responding and adapting to the changing environment as everyone has settled into the post-covid era of internet infrastructure. We have strived to remain current and address the changes and opportunities that have come as a result of all that we have learned over the past few years. OIX has continued to evolve to meet the changing needs of the Interconnection Community. We are excited to maintain our position in the community as leaders and advocates of openness, fairness and transparency.

#### 2. Review of Mission and Strategic Plan – Shawna

OIX Mission: We are a nonprofit member-based organization, encouraging the proliferation of interconnection through education and the development, implementation and certification of transparent technical and operating standards, in order to create more resilient and efficient global internet infrastructure.

#### OIX Strategic Objectives (2023 – 2024)

Based on the guidance provided by the Board, OIX performs its mission in accordance with the following goals and principles:

1. Retain current certified entities and grow certified entities. With a focus on new organizations and new markets.

- We have added 13 new certified entities this year and are in the process of adding several more.

2. Obtain sponsorships and/or grants for the purpose of educational seminars and tracks, new website, marketing, RFP generation and continued ANSI certification.

- We are offering sponsorships for OIX and are also looking into grant opportunities. The Product Committee has developed a specific plan and product to help to secure sponsorships.

3. Increase library of published interconnection and community engagement content.

- With the help of the newly formed Community Engagement Committee we have continued to put out content and build our internal library of data for future distribution.

4. Continue to form and execute strategic partnerships with analysts, other certification organizations, and appropriate directory services.

- We have pursued possible partnerships with analysts with the help of the PC and have also continued our relationship with ANSI, the American National Standards Institute.

5. Create a recruitment plan and a succession plan.

- We have solidified our documentation systems and created Board and Committee guidelines to help with volunteer recruitment. We have also pursued and established group contacts and instituted more inclusive document sharing to help with succession planning and information handoff with incoming and outgoing Board members and volunteers.

6. Continue to seek areas and opportunities to develop new digital infrastructure standards.

- We are currently in discussion with groups who have contacted us about creating new standards as well as building on existing standards related to our mission.

7. Identify additional high leverage programs to improve access to digital infrastructure.

- We are pursuing connections with established events and programs with similar missions in order to grow our outreach opportunities. Just last week one of our committee members spoke at a conference about OIX.

3. Financial Report - Brad Raymo

As a whole the organization is doing okay on the financial front. ANSI certification was a larger than expected expense this year. We are working on getting more partnerships to support ongoing needs.

4. Committee Updates – provided by Committee Chairs

A. Communications Engagement Committee (CEC) – Ilissa Miller - She thanked the board for their support and initiative in putting the CEC together. The committee's focus

is on marketing and generating messages; social media posts, etc. They identify ways to give back to the member organizations such as getting certified entities more brand recognition and exposure. There is a communications plan being executed by a group of volunteers.

B. IX – Paul Emmons - There were 13 new certifications this year; including 2 from outside the US. He has spoken with numerous other IXs about getting certified. He has plans to do more outreach early next year. He noted the online application helps get people through the process more easily.

C. Datacenter/Edge – Read by Shawna for chair, Brian Achten - We have had a few productive meetings with the team and have been looking into way to show the value statement of both the DataCenter and Edge certifications while also pushing the core message that OIX started with for Open and transparent peering standards. The team as a whole has hovered around Education and informing the general base of Internet based company's executive and decision making staff about the need for peering, open standards and in short, the foundation of the Internet and the exchange of traffic. It's been identified by that group that more and more often the rank and file executives of these Internet based or using companies no longer understand the foundation of Peering vs Transit Internet connections and via the Internet and specifically the network connections more of a commodity than the very different services they really are.

D. PC – Matt Trifiro - This was the first year of the product committee. Results were mixed.

1. The major project the product committee took on this year was an attempt to fund and create a landmark State of Interconnection report.
  - a. We worked with Tolaga Research to develop a prospectus
  - b. We built sales materials to help us sell sponsorship
  - c. We approached potential sponsorsUnfortunately, we were unable to secure a sponsor for the report, so we agreed to table it until next year when we will decide if we should try again.
2. We had some discussions with other organizations like PeeringDB about how we could collaborate on projects that include:
  - a. Ways to leverage currently unused Peering DB data to improve the navigator
  - b. Push OIX certifications into the Peering DB database. E.g., if a facility is OIX certified it would get a notation in the Peering DB database.
  - c. Collaborate on IXP advocacy and educational programs
3. In our last product committee meeting of the year, we identified a potential new standard opportunity for a standard around hyper-local and M2M interconnection. This is something the Product Council could explore in 2024.

5. Elections –Brad Raymo

a. Positions open for election: The OIX Board has 4 seats open and 5 candidates for the 2024-2025 term. The candidates have an opportunity to introduce themselves and briefly explain why they feel they are a good candidate for the OIX board.

b. Candidates: (please listen to the recording to hear the candidates speak)

**Jean-Francis Ahanda** - [LinkedIn](#)

**Sameer Gahlot** - [LinkedIn](#)

**Ilissa Miller** - [LinkedIn](#)

**John Osmon** - [LinkedIn](#)

**Mona Weisberg** - [LinkedIn](#)

c. Ballots via email: The election will open today (Dec 5th) at 12:30pm CT and be open for one week. Election results will be announced on Dec 13th. Ballots will be delivered via email to all members on the mailing list. If you do not receive a ballot please contact [info@oix.org](mailto:info@oix.org)

6. Open Q&A

Ilissa thanked Shawna and Sunshine for their detailed administrative work. Mona seconds that.

7. Adjournment (11:37 am CT)