

Eclipse AsciiDoc Working Group Steering Committee Agenda & Minutes

2021-March-9

Passcode: 240649

Agenda Topics	Moderator	Minutes
Welcome, roll call, & quorum; Red Hat representative change	Dan	5
Status update for asciidoc.org transition and design	Dan / Amarantha	10
Status update for asciidoc-lang project, contributing guide, and asciidoc-lang-dev mailing list	Dan	5
Invitation for Partner Members to designate a project committer to asciidoc-lang	Dan	5
Status update for proposal for Java implementation project	Jay	5
Status update for Working Group website Decision about proposed hostname: asciidoc-wg.eclipse.org Preview: https://eclipsefdn-asciidoc.netlify.app/ Source code: https://github.com/EclipseFdn/asciidoc.eclipse.org	Alexander	10
Status update regarding creation of tooling committee	Alexander	5
Open floor	Dan	5
Schedule next meeting	Dan	5

Steering Committee Representatives:

Alexander Schwartz (community representative)
Amarantha Kulkarni (Couchbase)
Jason Porter (Red Hat)
Jay Bryant (VMware)
Steven Anderson (salesforce/mulesoft)
Dan Allen (OpenDevise)
Guillaume Grossetie (community representative)

Other Attendees:

Abel Salgado Romero (VMware)
Dan Mulholland
David Jencks
Simon Dew (Couchbase)
Lisa Ruff (OpenDevise)
Sharon Corbett (Eclipse Foundation)
Paul Buck (Eclipse Foundation)

Absent:

Tammy Fox (CloudBees)
Jared Morgan (community representative)

Welcome & Roll Call

Dan Allen (Chair) started meeting by welcoming everyone.

Dan notified us that Red Hat is changing its Steering Committee representative for 2021. Robert Kratky is stepping back and Jason Porter will take his place. Robert will still be attending meetings as his schedule permits. Dan asked if there's anything Red Hat needs to do other than this announcement. Sharon Corbett told us that this is sufficient notification.

Dan welcomed Jason as the new representative for Red Hat.

Action item: before each meeting, Lisa Ruff will enable editing on the Agenda document for the group so we can add names, links, etc.

A quorum was verified.

asciidoc.org transition and design

Status update for the transition: AsciiDoc.py has moved their materials to another organization (<https://github.com/asciidoc-py/asciidoc-py>). We still have work to do in order to enable the necessary redirects from asciidoc.org to the location for that project's new site. This portion of the work is temporarily on hold while we are getting the new asciidoc.org site organized.

Status update for the website design: Dan shared some basic information and thoughts with Amarantha Kulkarni to relay to the designer at Couchbase. He presented a summary of his thoughts on what asciidoc.org could/should be:

- A place to onboard people who have just been introduced to AsciiDoc.
- A hub for pointing out what exists in the AsciiDoc world and where to find everything.
- Not a lot of details; more of a structure/sense of the ecosystem.

Amarantha commented that she will be discussing the project with the designer in more detail this week. She has gotten input from her SEO team as well. We should have a mock-up soon to share with the group. She and the designer will go through Dan's input point-by-point and add any specific requirements. Once that is done, she will share the doc with the group for further input and ideation.

She added that we're in the information-gathering phase of this project, determining the audience, goals, etc. Amarantha is following the system Couchbase used to redesign their docs site: high level requirements, non-negotiable items, nice-to-haves, etc. Breaking it down in a similar way in order to manage the project.

Action item: Amarantha will move the input Dan provided to a Google Doc and share that with the group.

asciidoc-lang project, contributing guide, and asciidoc-lang-dev mailing list

Since the last meeting, we have officially opened the mailing list for asciidoc-lang-dev (<https://accounts.eclipse.org/mailling-list/asciidoc-lang-dev>). The [kickoff message](#) addressed the scope and vision of the project. The next step is to formalize the contribution workflow; a way of contributing that's clear, managed, and organized. As expected, we're already getting a lot of messages to the list. Once the process is formalized, these discussions will be channeled to the issue tracker so they're not so rambling and informal.

Sarah White of OpenDevise has been distilling the information provided by EF and putting together a set of documents that gives an executive summary of the project. Each document will

be focused on a piece of the process so that potential contributors have an easier time understanding how the project works and how to participate. These documents are in draft form; pull requests will be submitted in the next few days. The contributing guide and workflow will be open for community feedback, then will be merged into the repository.

After that, the next steps will be to file a series of issues to set a course for the project. In these issues, people will start to share and create the tangibles that will get the development underway. These issues will tie to the initial process documents.

Important decisions to be made include how the committer process will work. EF largely leaves this up to the individual projects, with recommendation for best practices.

Invitation for Partner Members to designate a project committer to asciidoc-lang

As part of the specification process for the Eclipse Foundation, Partner members are allowed to appoint a project committer to the asciidoc-lang project. Some Partner members already have a committer by way of the initial contribution; others do not. The current list of committers can be found here: https://gitlab.eclipse.org/eclipse/asciidoc/asciidoc-lang/-/project_members

In order to appoint a committer, the Partner member should email their selection to the EMO and that person will be added to the committer list. This is not an elected position.

Jason Porter asked if this meant all contributions for a company have to go through their committer. Dan answered no, this simply gives the Partner Members representation for the sake of continuity.

Sharon added this link in order to understand the process:

<https://www.eclipse.org/projects/handbook/#specifications-participant-committers>

Action item: All Partner Members who do not already have a committer on the project will email their appointed committer information to emo@eclipse.org. When that person is confirmed, Dan will summarize the appointments in a post to the asciidoc-wg mailing list as a courtesy to the group.

Java implementation project

Jay Bryant reported that he has read through the process and it makes good sense to him. He needs to get permissions from Alexander Schwartz to enable his editing. Jay commented that the basic idea is to pull the AsciiDoctorJ and run with it. Dan clarified that this is not AsciiDoctorJ. It will be a new, independent project, written from scratch. However, it will certainly draw on ideas from AsciiDoctorJ.

The project is expected to respond to requests from the spec project to validate and test ideas for viability. This project doesn't get priority over other implementation efforts, but it does have a special relationship insofar as it will help move the specification forward by being receptive to its needs. Other implementation projects can also test ideas or request changes.

The Java implementation is critical to the early discussion of the spec so that we can ensure the specification moves forward with at least one implementation providing input and helping to guide the way (adhering to Eclipse's code first approach to specification development). The next step is to load this document into the proposal form and submit it to the EF.

Action item: Jay will clarify some questions he has, then populate and submit the proposal next week.

Working Group website

Alexander Schwartz and Robert worked with EF to get parameters for the static site. He shared this "out of the box" theme which includes all the EF requirements for a standard WG website, publishing using Hugo.

- Preview: <https://eclipsefdn-asciidoc.netlify.app/>
- Source code: <https://github.com/EclipseFdn/asciidoc.eclipse.org>

Right now the source repository for the site is hosted on GitHub, but that will move to GitLab as soon as it's supported by the web team at EF. Next step will be content for the site.

Resolved, the website template provided by the Eclipse Foundation was unanimously approved as a starting point.

Next, Alexander proposed a hostname: `asciidoc-wg.eclipse.org`. The discussion on the mailing list has been for "-wg" added to distinguish this site from the `asciidoc.org` site.

Resolved, the hostname `asciidoc-wg.eclipse.org` was unanimously approved.

Alexander is waiting for feedback from Robert in order to merge the latest changes and make the site fully AsciiDoc compatible (converting all Markdown to AsciiDoc). At that point we will be ready to add content. A first step will be to eliminate all elements in the template that we don't want to see.

Action items:

- Committee to comment on template as to what could be removed.
- Sarah will give an overview of what could go on this site based on the process documentation she is creating.

Creation of tooling committee

The tooling committee exploration is in process. Alexander did some research on naming protocol at EF. He recommends that this be a “round table,” as a way of bringing people together.

He gave us a couple of list-styles as a reference. These are plain, but they invite people to collaborate:

- <https://github.com/vuejs/awesome-vue>
- <https://github.com/bodiam/awesome-asciidoc>

Another option might be to create this as an Antora site. He requested input as the ideas are still forming.

Dan added that this is an interesting way for the marketing/advocacy arm of the working group to put tools on our list, but not necessarily advocate one over another. The Awesome lists end up being curated by the community, so they are a place to share knowledge in a more egalitarian way.

There was discussion on who should host a list like this. Dan suggested the AsciiDoc group on the Eclipse GitLab instance could host it as a resource (read as: discrete repository). Alexander will bring the next level of information to the next meeting.

Open Floor

Jay asked for a best practice on capitalization of AsciiDoc. Dan reminded us that this is a trademark issue, too, and we need to be consistent. It is **AsciiDoc**.

Daniel Mullholland brought up the kerfuffle from the mailing list last week (subject line: Whitespace handling). He thinks this misunderstanding happened from not having a process for the project and an issue template. Dan agreed, and added that he thinks part of the problem was people jumping into discussions before the process was defined (as we stated they would be in the kickoff email). He also noted that we need to protect the openness of the thought process while being mindful of the consequences of our decision. Essentially, we need to be professional and honor Eclipse’s code of conduct. We could consult EF as a resource for issues such as this. This will become more clear once the process documents are available in the



repository. Daniel added that community falls apart more easily than it forms and emphasized we need to protect the community spirit as we grow/build.

Daniel also added he would like to see community chats happen more in the future as a way of community building. Dan said that they are testing different platforms (like SpatialChat and Zulip). Perhaps a forum for the group would be helpful.

Next meeting

We will switch back to the earlier time for the next meeting, then rotate between the two times. Next meeting will be on April 6, 2021.

Thank you to everyone for attending!

Meeting adjourned!