

You, reader! If you think these suck, please go ahead and edit them or do them next week. I really don't mind this, I'm just worried that they're inadequate

Looks like we have 16 in attendance?

Starting a little late: we're talking to this one guy about a location. Brick building. On Toulouse somewhere...?

Simon has an agenda:

new folks: Alan G.: java Alan B. Trey T: programming and networking Daniel: Building, going to school Trey: (came in late) gets 2600 magazine (we put him up to speed)

First on the agenda: the name (reading notes from the wiki) We should figure out a new name tonight if we're going to change it Should we? Maybe only change it if we know the new name We agree that it's worth discussing

start off with some stems: Lagniappe Krewe Big Easy NOLA Crescent City

Mention of NOLAB? Should we resurrect

I point out that we'll have to explain the word hacker when pitching point: Hacker's also a limiting term for those that know what it is.

Outside of the actual name: different nomenclatures for what we are.

[NolaHive](#) ? Crescent City Laboratories

create an interesting brand name that doesn't explain what it is, perhaps a tagline afterwards

Lagniappelab?

In marketing there's the term "empty vessel name" like ebay, where it could mean anything. But we have so many city name/city pride opportunities. We shouldn't ignore the strength of those "city" words

we will need a mission statement to explain

remake nola? [GumboLab](#) ?

Other nomenclatures: Fablabs? Startuplats?

[VoodooLab](#) Electro-voodoo [JambaLab](#) [TchoupitouLAB](#) Le Bon Temp [RouLAB](#) New Orleans Creative Hive

play with Bayou, Swamp, Gators

should we brainstorm over the week, table decision until next week. A poll on the site to narrow it down? Let's just throw out names onto the page, decide definitely in person next week

Moving on: If you are reading this and not on the e-mail list, subscribe. P.S. Anybody can subscribe and see the archive

Louisiana Artwork Studio: would be (mostly)free (we don't seem to know what mostly means), but have to work on the application by tomorrow. It's small. Usually thought of for individual artists. Requires a resume, letter of intent, 20 images from the past 3 years etc. Location: is around lee circle doesn't seem like a good fit for us (but does seem like a good option for anybody here)

Next thing: pros and cons about legal structure read off the stuff on the wiki Tax implications are going to be tough for LLC Membership and ownership: LLC can be tricky

Red tape: extreme amount of paperwork as far as receipts and taxation, LLC shields individuals, non-profit has higher individual burden. Lots of quarterly and monthly filing. Essentially requires hiring someone to take care of paperwork. If you have that it has a lot of advantages. LLC retains the profits going to the individuals, individuals are taxed. Profit goes through LLC to every member, members have to file those profits on their own initiative.

Trey T's friend seems to be willing to do the necessary stuff

Alan B (who did the red tape stuff) says this feels like a nonprofit. Nonprofit has nothing to do with a social cause, all money goes back into the business. Big Easy Roller girls (who he works with) are tired of dealing with division of revenue.

In order to get the nonprofit status you need a full board of directors.

Employee-owned cooperatives are an idea. C-4 (computer repair) is done this way, and one of the members seems open to helping other things like that to move.

Why should the existence of this group have any claim on the work it creates?

We do need to pay rent, so we probably will need to create things in the name of the group.

A co-op fits inside a nonprofit or LLC.

There are potentially two separate organizational things here. One entity could charge the other entity to use the space.

Link on the 2600 forums to a place that allows people to do creative things.

If we create an organization that only exists to manage the space, what comes out of it is out of that organization's hands

Chris has been in coops a lot, has seen different frameworks that are available on the web that are set up in different ways.

(please feel free to edit my minutes here or at any point, I think we all had some amount of confusion here)

Perhaps we're only interested in the structure of managing this space, the projects that come from it are irrelevant.

For clarification: co-op is a management structure for whatever type of company you want to put on top of it.

Cooperative is great for a management structure, but you still need the structure for nonprofit or LLC. If you decide to do a coop management structure, you can write that part into the bylaws.

It's probably best if we talk to a lawyer and get more pros and cons. This is all very vague and we need some real organization. We have some ideas of people that we can definitely get to come.

Simon is the president of a non-profit, can vouch that once it's set up it's not that hard.

We will come across the problem of electing (or whatever we do) a board of directors.

We should know this sort of stuff before we turn on miter saws etc. but once we get it rolling, this stuff will not be something we'll have to deal with on a day-to-day basis.

We will need to set up subgroups to set up specific tasks.

Simon: payment should really only be considered for things that we certainly don't want to do ourselves (taxes etc.)

debate about infrastructure projects, what they are and what it means as far as "work towards the organization". If somebody logs hours doing a server farm, is that really viable volunteer work? It's fuzzy Simon: what do you feel about all members not being eligible to be paid for what they do? I'm getting a mixed feelings vibe here.

NO CONSCRIPTED LABOR!

NOVAC used to have a volunteer person doing their taxes. It was a problem because it was a lower priority.

Rewind: members of our group do not get paid. Do we want to vote on this?

If you're a licensed electrician, you'll get paid through your private company if we chose you. Considered on a non-member basis.

There are many opportunities possible here, but you should not expect them to be from the space.

So here's an issue: very capable people MIGHT volunteer their labor to pad their resumes. The work people will do for non-profit organizations are hard to predict.

Barter systems? Master plumber might take 2 years dues for membership if ze thinks it's a cool thing.

When you take somebody with interests aligned with the organization and they align themselves with the organization, they might need a title to speak for us (say if they're getting a grant) might put in a ton of time, might only be reasonable to compensate them for their work.

More clouding: give people receipts for their time that they can take off of their taxes (if we're a nonprofit (which we seem to agree we will be))

might not be worth laying down the law about not getting paid just yet.

Determining the amount we paid might be best tabled until we know what we're looking at Determining what we're looking at might be decided by how much we pay...

Quick thing: update on Nowe Miasto the guy was thrown by the name. When told about NYCResistor, building robots and stuff he was cool about it.

We should have a timetable, set goals.

If somebody's talking to attorneys, can we get a list of questions just in case they ask things we haven't even considered. There are sites to do this (but that's not always enough)

There's a field trip page on the wiki!

Daniel: government needs outside IT stuff for really stupid things. If we work as a group to do these, we can have this work for our organization, build our resume, make us look good for the government, lower our own costs. Some concern: don't want to become a temp agency. Capital is obtained by money up front. This turns us into a nonprofit business, which we're not really into doing. Even adds to liability of doing business outside your own career, your boss getting jealous

-- [HunterKing](#) - 20 Apr 2009

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