MacPorts PortMgr

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MacPorts Community

- Users
- Individual Contributors
- Port Maintainers
- Members with Commit Access
- Base Developers
- PortMgr

Role of PortMgr

- Membership/Community
- Technical Policies
- Release Process
- Public Relations
- Infrastructure

Organization of PortMgr

- Port managers since 2008
 - Joshua Root (jmr@)
 - Ryan Schmidt (ryandesign@)
 - Rainer Müller (raimue@)
 - Bryan Blackburn (blb@)
 - retired in 2011
- Mode of operation
 - discussions on portmgr@
 - private mailing list
 - contact address for all inquiries
 - redirecting everything out of scope to public places

Elder Council

- "Elder" Council:
 - former port managers and founders of the project
 - still receiving/reading portmgr@
 - providing input when necessary/requested
 - propagation of accumulated knowledge

Community: Commit Access

- Application per mail to portmgr@
- Policy: show existing record of contributions
 - contributing new ports
 - fixing bugs in existing ports
 - volunteering as a maintainer of non-maintained ports
 - involvement on MacPorts development and/or user support mailing lists
 - contributing with documentation
- Approval / Rejection
 - usually unanimous after review
 - often reviews take quite some time (tickets, patches, mails, ...)
 - notices include advice for continuing contributions

Community: Retiring Members

- Announced per mail to portmgr@
- Removing maintainership from ports
- Updating wiki page
- Mail forward and login credentials left active

Community: Other Requests

- User support questions
 - redirected to macports-users
- Mailing list assistance
 - PortMgrs are also -owners contact in MailMan
 - most common problem: subscribe to post as anti-spam policy for macports-dev/macports-users
- Downtime announcements
 - forwarded to developers and users
- Dispute resolution
 - very seldom
 - with hostile upstream projects

Release Process and Public Relations

• PortMgr prepares new releases¹

- public discussion on macports-dev
- branch/feature decision by base developers
- technical execution by PortMgr

Announcements

- mailing list
- third-party sites
- social media

¹see trunk/base/portmgr/ReleaseProcess

Infrastructure

• Administrative contact for hosting providers

- from project to provider
 - new members
 - mail aliases
 - password resets
 - other requests
- from provider to members
 - downtime
 - changes to infrastructure
- Decisions on changes to hosting

Discussion Points

- Member approval process
 - more open?
 - more involvement of other project members?
- Regular elections?
 - voting procedure?
 - cryptographically secured?