Ethereum Governance

Hudson Jameson

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Involved in cryptocurrency/blockchain space since 2011.

USAA: 2014-2016

Ethereum Foundation: 2016-current

Oaken Innovations: 2016-current

1 Wife & 3 Cats

Governance is the process by which we attempt to establish (and maintain/revoke) the legitimacy of decisions, decision making processes, and related governance norms/expectations.

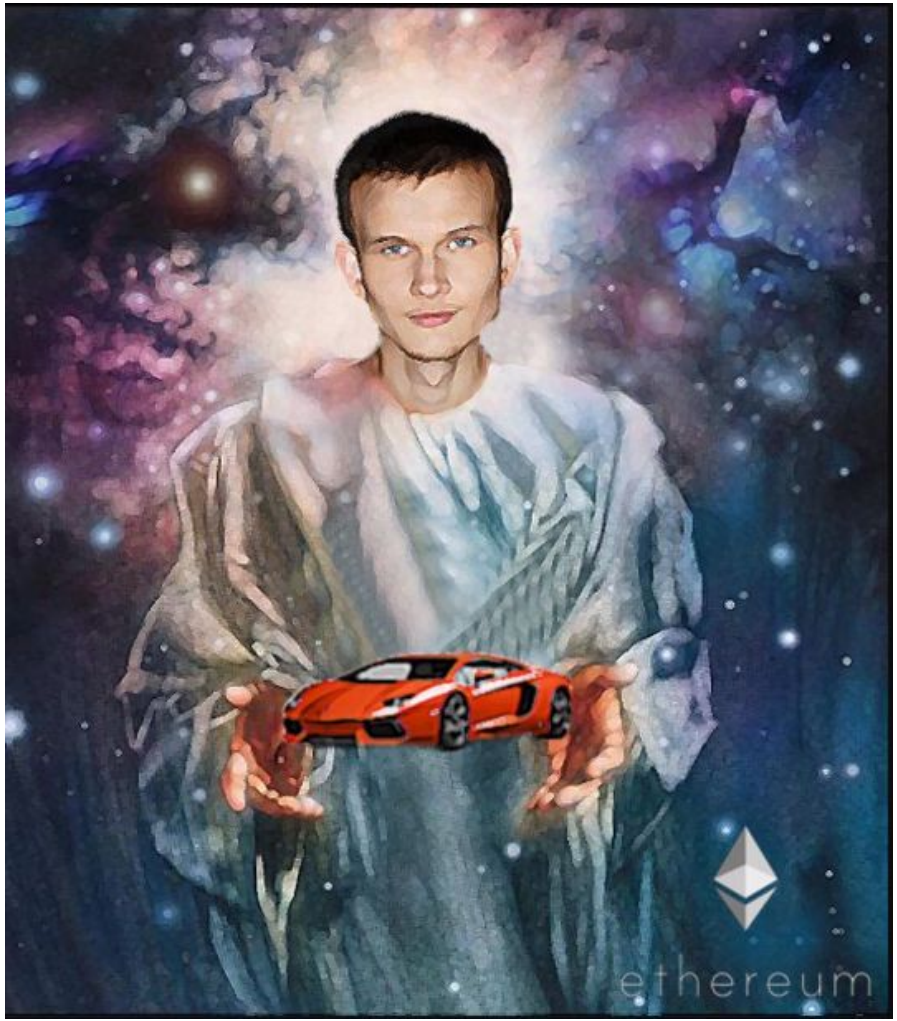
- Vlad Zamfir (Twitter)

What It Was

- 2014-Early 2015: Basically all clients and development tools were developed at the Ethereum Foundation.
- Late 2015-2016: Outside entities start to form as people leave the Ethereum Foundation.
- 2016: Beginning of Enterprise Ethereum discussions. More infrastructure being developed by 3rd parties.
- 2017: Enterprise Ethereum brings “traditional” companies into Ethereum. More visible government and academic interest.

What It Is Now

(Just kidding)



Current Major Players

- Consensys
- Web3 Foundation
- Parity Technologies
- Ethereum Foundation
- Enterprise Ethereum Alliance
- Fellowship of Ethereum Magicians
- Client devs (All Core Devs meeting)
- Ethereum Improvement Proposal (EIP) Editors
- Highly used infrastructure tools (Metamask, MyCrypto, Infura)

Ethereum Improvement Proposals

All Core Networking Interface ERC Informational Meta

EIPs gitter join chat rss Last Calls

Ethereum Improvement Proposals (EIPs) describe standards for the Ethereum platform, including core protocol specifications, client APIs, and contract standards.

Contributing

First review EIP-1. Then clone the repository and add your EIP to it. There is a template EIP here. Then submit a Pull Request to Ethereum's EIPs repository.

EIP status terms

- **Draft** - an EIP that is open for consideration.
- **Accepted** - an EIP that is planned for immediate adoption, i.e. expected to be included in the next hard fork (for Core/Consensus layer EIPs).
- **Final** - an EIP that has been adopted in a previous hard fork (for Core/Consensus layer EIPs).
- **Deferred** an EIP that is not being considered for immediate adoption. May be reconsidered in the future for a subsequent hard fork.

EIP Types

EIPs are separated into a number of types, and each has its own list of EIPs.

Standard Track (111)

Describes any change that affects most or all Ethereum implementations, such as a change to the the network protocol, a change in block or transaction validity rules, proposed application standards/conventions, or any change or addition that affects the interoperability of applications using Ethereum. Furthermore Standard EIPs can be broken down into the following categories.

Core (51)

Improvements requiring a consensus fork (e.g. EIP5, EIP101), as well as changes that are not necessarily consensus critical but may be relevant to "core dev" discussions (for example, the miner/node strategy

EIP 20: ERC-20 Token Standard ‹›

Author	Fabian Vogelsteller, Vitalik Buterin
Status	Final
Type	Standards Track
Category	ERC
Created	2015-11-19

Simple Summary

A standard interface for tokens.

Abstract

The following standard allows for the implementation of a standard API for tokens within smart contracts. This standard provides basic functionality to transfer tokens, as well as allow tokens to be approved so they can be spent by another on-chain third party.

Motivation

A standard interface allows any tokens on Ethereum to be re-used by other applications: from wallets to decentralized exchanges.

Specification

Token

Zoom Meeting ID: 190-230-163

Recording...

Speaker View

Xin Xu | Hudson Jameson | Andrea Lanfranchi | Brian Venturo -... | zsfelfoldi

Piper | Lane Rettig | Matt Halpern | Dmitrii (Harmony) | Jason Carver

Jean M. Cyr | Péter Szilágyi | Martin Holst Sw... | Eric Conner | Tim Coulter

Matthew Light | Antoine | Danny Ryan | Dimitry | Jacek Sieka

Carl L | Alex Beregszaszi... | MariusVanDerWi... | Afri 5chdn | Paweł Bylica

1/2

1/2

Mute | Stop Video | Invite | Manage Participants 35 | Share Screen | Chat 6 | Pause/Stop Recording | End Meeting

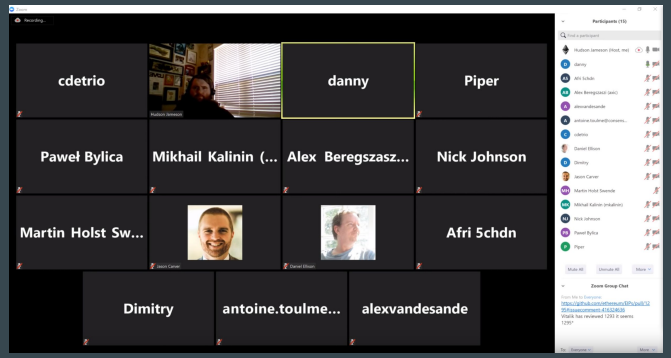
Participants (35)

Find a participant

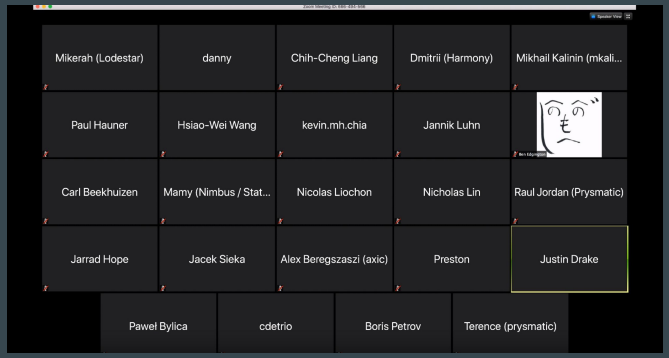
- Hudson Jameson (Host, me)
- 85vg8l24MPelLMvzelC3QADZ...
- Afri 5chdn
- Alex Beregszaszi (axic)
- Alex Thorn - Fidelity Labs
- alexvandesande
- Andrea Lanfranchi
- Antoine
- Bob Summerwill
- Brian Venturo - Atlantic Crypto
- Carl L
- Daniel Ellison
- Danny Ryan
- Dimitry
- Dmitrii (Harmony)
- Eric Conner
- gcolvin
- hacktar
- Igor Barinov
- Jacek Sieka
- Jason Carver
- Jason Temple

Mute All | Unmute All | More

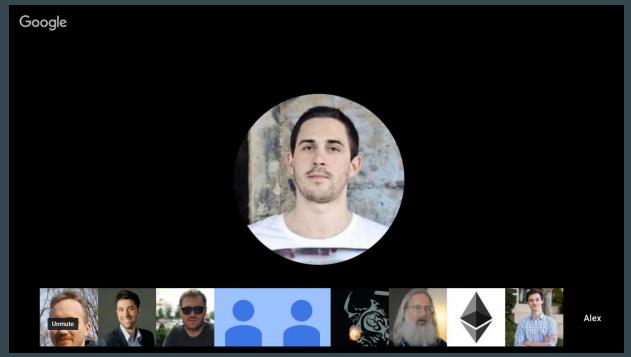
All Core Devs Call



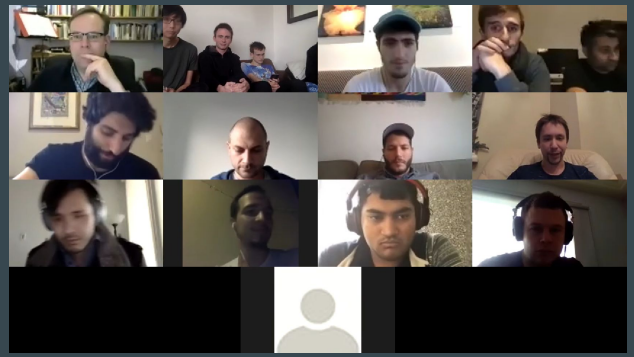
Eth Implementers 2.0



EWASM Community Call



Plasma Implementers Call



Problems

- EIPs and All Core Dev meetings are only formal way decisions are made for network upgrades.
- Problem with participation on the most technical discussions.
  - Same people making decisions over and over again because no one has the time or inclination to take the torch.
- Few good signaling systems or other methods to gauge community consensus on contentious issues.

Solutions?

- Involve more diverse groups and participants.
- Create safe places for discord.
- Encourage participation and outspoken opinions.
- Addition of more governance structures.
- Continuous improvement of current structures.

Is Ethereum centralized?

- No, not really. We are too disorganized to be centralized.

What Can We Do?

- ~~Panic~~
- Study and develop good governance structures early on.
- Figureheads are good early on in a blockchain project, but influence needs to be lessened over time.
- Model pieces of your governance structures after other groups, such as IETF.

Thank you!

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