

[Ksummit-discuss] [MAINTAINER TOPIC] Succession Planning: Is It time to Throw Linus Under a Bus?

Jens Axboe [axboe at kernel.dk](mailto:axboe@kernel.dk)

Thu Sep 6 21:20:08 UTC 2018

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On 9/6/18 3:13 PM, James Bottomley wrote:

> On Thu, 2018-09-06 at 13:59 -0700, Linus Torvalds wrote:

>> On Thu, Sep 6, 2018 at 1:51 PM James Bottomley

>> <[James.Bottomley at hansenpartnership.com](mailto:James.Bottomley@hansenpartnership.com)> wrote:

>>>

>>> It's happened occasionally, but it's not very traditional. Usually

>>> when people do a palace coup replacement, the tumbrels are waiting

>>> outside to cart the old dictator off to their sticky end.

>>

>> This has taken a dark turn.

>

> You were the one who mentioned dictators ... I was perfectly happy with
> the bus.

>

>> I do want to point out that I brought the question up last year on
>> the spot. I didn't get any reaction then. I was thinking me not being
>> around would have been more conducive to discussion. But whatever.

>

> OK, so we could still have a plebiscite in Vancouver; we have the room
> and the time still reserved. It could propose a succession plan and
> just present it to you. I admit there's precedent; it's how we did the
> next TAB chair for instance.

>

> However, I really think for an orderly succession plan, you need to be
> part of it rather than having a palace coup which could end up being
> really messy and divisive. I suspect people treated your proposal last
> year as more of a joke last year because they didn't think you were
> serious. If you're really serious about doing this, let's try to come
> up with the succession process in Edinburgh in October and see if we
> can run a Maintainer Summit with the new Leadership in Vancouver in
> November.

This seems rather hasty to me, I think it would be prudent to establish
a timeline (on both sides?). Unless you are really proposing a coup?

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Jens Axboe

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