

Factom Authority Node Operator Committees

Developer Relations Committee

Monthly Report: July 2018

The report is specific to Hackathons as one of the solutions to improve developer relations.

I reached out to various ANOs to gauge interest in hosting Hackathon at their local cities. Generally, ANOs are interested but don't have the financial bandwidth and manpower at the moment. Two are already planning to host hackathon locally but expressed concern about the cost and plan on relying on local partnership to alleviate organizational concerns. To encourage more hackathon events to reach out to developers, ANOs should explore these recommendations:

1. Gather data from ANOs who have already organized hackathons or is planning to organize one in near future. Valuable information like cost (food, venue, manpower, prize money, etc), organizer time commitment, roadblocks, lesson learned. Sharing these information with the community can alleviate many concerns expressed by no-committal ANOs.
2. Consider community organized hackathon at locations that don't have ANO presence. Along that line, consider community funded hackathons to eliminate one of the biggest cost, which is the prize money.
3. We need to standardize the api wrapper used at these Hackathons. Otherwise we will run into conflict of interest issues with different organizers using different api wrapper (e.g. Factom Inc. with their Apollo and BIF with their Sphereon) From new developers attending hackathon, using different api wrapper at each hackathon events can be confusing.
4. Better pre-hackathon marketing materials to introduce Factom Protocol to developers. In line with the initiative to create neutral information website.
5. Better technical documentation for developers and a central repository of "toolboxes". Similar to what Documentation Committee is trying to achieve.
6. Proper follow up with attendees to gauge recruitment opportunity and potential business partnership. Ideally this should be community effort so these opportunities can be shared with all ANOs instead of being monopolized by the local organizer. (Assuming this is a community funded event)