Community Call September 2019

Agenda items are added black.

Minutes are added in blue.

Closed ACTIONS in green.

Open ACTIONS in red.

Past minutes are in the folder https://cryptpad.fr/drive/#/2/drive/edit/uZ1UjYxICjse+XlJrXrIwZXN/

A) Attendees (right now based on past attendees - delete/add as appropriate)

- **Lars Kurth**, **George Dunlap**, Paul Durrant, **Andrew Cooper**, **Roger Pau Monné** (Citrix)
- **Juergen Gross**, **Jan** (Suse)
- Tamas K Lengyel (Intel)
- Daniel Kiper (Oracle)
- **Daniel P Smith**, **Christopher Clark** (OpenXT Project)
- Julien Grall (Arm)
- **Rich Persaud** (OpenXT)
- Brian Woods, Stefano Stabellini (Xilinx)
- Wei Liu

Above is a list of past regular attendees. UPDATE

B) Agenda Items to discuss early

Jan can only join the beginning of the call

- The pending AMD maintainership changes (Jan)
  Brian does not work for AMD any more, Boris does not want to continue
  Jan's primary concern: wouldn't be bad if AMD bought into the proposal
  Lars agrees
  - Collapsing the AMD component maintainership scope was discussed but rejected on the call.
    ACTION: Lars to follow up by e-mail and Andy will do so in parallel
- The various pending follow-ups of mine to XSAs 275 ... 294 (Jan)

  XSA-292 (most relevant): https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-05/msg00138.html

  XSA-275, XSA-285, XSA-288: https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-03/msg00166.html

https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-07/msg00232.html

XSA-294: https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-03/msg00849.html

(unfinished discussion at https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-04/msg00290.html and https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-04/msg00306.html)

Blocked on Andy, but possibly George could help

C.1) Actions recently resolved

1. **ACTION: Lars to investigate some LF projects regarding Code of Conduct: Make an e-mail summary and send to xen-devel@**
Done
Current CoC proposal has been posted:
https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-09/threads.html#00329

2. **ACTION: Lars and others to document standards**
Done, see

   - https://wiki.xenproject.org/wiki/Submitting_Xen_Project_Patches
   - https://wiki.xenproject.org/wiki/Managing_Xen_Patches_with_Git
   - https://wiki.xenproject.org/wiki/Managing_Xen_Patches_with_StGit
   - https://wiki.xenproject.org/wiki/Managing_Xen_Patches_with_Git-series
   - And https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-09/threads.html#00263 (needs Ian Jackson's review or that of another Perl expert)

We should discuss BRIEFLY whether it makes sense to migrate some of these to the new docs

Andy: posted introduction proposal on Sphinx docs - a bit of feedback on Glossary
Plan is to 1st build sphinx docs up and then start migrating selecyed pandoc content
Andy will spin v2

Also see
https://xen.markmail.org/thread/p3kipytoxszckmij for wish-list - Ask was to get feedback on whether in principle this is a good solution

C.2) New Actions raised in this meeting

ACTION: Lars to contact Douh and Wei and try and find out what is happening re CI Loop v2

D) Proposed Agenda Items

1. Wanted to see whether there is any progress on CI Loop v2 and GitLab integration (Lars)
   Andy: been tweaking some of the containers

   ACTION: Lars (see above)

E) New Series / Series that need attention

1. Core scheduling series: there has been a request to have the majority of the patches in 4.13 as long as scheduling in cpu mode (so core scheduling inactive) shows no regressions. Only the patch adding the possibility to activate core scheduling mode would be added after verification that this is running smoothly. This requires accepting the general approach of the series and definitely feedback from the scheduler maintainers. We should discuss that option. (Juergen, https://patchew.org/Xen/20190809145833.1020-1-jgross@suse.com/)

   When will core scheduling be ready? Having something ready ASAP which is not perfect would be good
   Andy: was not trying to drive upstream changes, but trying to establish what options we have
   Andy: Citrix has a large number of customers interested in it
   Andy: makes the point that practically is very difficult to get in
   Roger: Did something similar with PVShim
   Andy: Citrix is doing a lot of testing. A lot of the series is structure / refactoring
   Andy: If we can verify to our best knowledge that the series isnt introducing regressions for "old mode" but accept bugs with new functionality ("core mode")
   George: makes the point that in this case there is enough interest by multiple vendors for this not to become stale
   Andy: the intent is to get this working perfectly in 4.13
   Andy: better quality than spectre/meltdown series
   Rich: Asks about issue tracking

Andy: This is no issue, can be done with standard Xen 4.13 release notes process
George: want a once over in terms of ACKs (with recorded known issues)

ACTION: George (see above)

2. Added by Steven Haigh (netwiz@crc.id.au / Freenode: CRCinAU) - Status of Windows HVM on AMD Ryzen 3000 series CPUs - Currently not able to boot Windows at all with viridian=1, and limited to 1 vcpu with viridian=0. Xen-devel list post has seen some traffic - topic "Windows HVM no longer boots with AMD Ryzen 3700X (and 3900X)". Status / fix guestimate and indication of priority from Paul D would be helpful. My involvement starts here: https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-09/threads.html#00015
Lars' view: this is important, thus 4.13 should not go out with it. Xen works on 1.xxx and 2.xxx series
We should start tracking this issue, such that it isn't lost
So far, the thread was contributed to by: Andreas Kinzler (raiser), Andy Cooper, Paul Durrant and Steven Haigh
Would it be useful if I could provide some access to a Xen Dom0 running 4.11.2 on a Ryzen 3xxx series CPU?

Andy: may be able to get access to Debug this issue. But not certain.
Andy: This unique to these desktop CPUs but not the equivalent server ones
Andy: may be all HVM or Win specific

Agreement: High on the SHOULD be fixed list
Rich: there is a server for it which uses this CPU
ACTION: Rich (see above)

3. Added by Steven Haigh (netwiz@crc.id.au / Freenode: CRCinAU) - Possibility to adopt M.A Young's patch to support a saved default in grubenv when booting via pygrub. Draft patch was posted to list, but not in the accepted format. M.A Young has since been MIA leading to that fix being somewhat abandoned. Reference: https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-08/msg01517.html
Lars' view: Has not had a review. Presumably because it does not follow patch sending conventions and is in no-ones review queue
It's a PyGrub change (not sure who is maintainer)
MA Young has not been responsive: would someone be willing to take the patch and run with it

Fedora has totally changed how to handle Grub

George: Need to find someone who will act as maintainer (aka Ian and Wei)
ACTION: Lars (see above)

<Add details about discussions here>

F) Longer term / speculative

1. Artem has been playing with markmail, with a view to creating a tool which creates the equivalent of code coverage for code reviews: aka it would identify which code has been code reviewed and by how many people. This is important for safety certification, but may have other uses (Artem) - if people are interested we can cover.
2. Domain name service for nested virt and disaggregation (Daniel Smith)
   See https://lists.xenproject.org/archives/html/xen-devel/2019-09/msg00342.html

   Discussion about UIDs
   Attendees seem to be happy with the aim of Daniel's proposal; difficulties presented by attempting to enforce uniqueness of uuids were discussed; but some key people were not on the call
   ACTION: Daniel (see above)

G) AOB

1. <Add discussion items here>