

Q&A: Answers to your comments & questions from the survey “The Future of the BKK!” (March 2020)

Member: *“I think the hardest part of being more active with BKK was that the treffens were in Neukölln and from my work and home it's really a trek.”*

Board answer: The reason for this was that our partner Coopolis was able to provide free meeting spaces, but only within Neukölln (due to their funding regulations). We totally understand that always traveling to Neukölln isn't ideal for a lot of members that live in other areas of Berlin. That's why we've started doing the Treffens at alternating member's studios all over the city for quite a few months now. We hope this allows people from other areas to join Treffens more frequently.

Member: *“If the Kollektiv is really one, then the members should be at the front and center. Klar, you need the Board if you are a Verein...but it could be more self-administrated so there is less work for the team. I think the Verein should also plan to hire outside help with things that nobody wants to do (accounting, for example)”*

Board answer: We haven't been successful in building a strong structure of voluntary work divided amongst many shoulders. We've tried several times by building sub-teams, promoting mini-roles and so on, but we have never been able to find enough volunteers to really share the workload evenly. By the way: accounting has been outsourced since the very beginning, but it's still necessary to have one person from the Verein responsible for finances who prepares all the papers for the accountant and manages bank account payments & our financial budget.

Member: *“I wouldn't mind to pay a higher year-fee to have access to workshops/congress/events.. For example 3 big events per year, where all members can participate at the same time (like the BKK-Congress) and that are organized by a Leadership team, who maybe work half or full time for the BKK. I think it would be more realistic to renounce to unpaid-time apportations and make it more "professional", where the organizers get paid for their job. In Spain there is such a community.. maybe you want to take a look: <https://extraordinaria.es/2020-agenda/>”*

Board answer: This is one of the ways the BKK could become more sustainable and it was always a dream of the current Board. It's up to the members and future leaders to decide whether they want to scale up the BKK in this kind of way, or to focus on being a small organisation.

Member: Weekend in Brandenburg for everybody that wants to be involved in building the future of BKK.

Board answer: That's a great idea! As part of the process of finding new people to take over we would invite members to organize such a trip. Eva has been to a place called “[Stechlin Institute](#)” with another group of people. They offer their wonderful house in Brandenburg for any social communities for a super cheap price. Just go ahead and contact them about available spots or organize a trip to another place.

Member: "It felt like the charitable dimension made things more complicated. I think it might be worth looking in the gGmbH form, a gemeinnützige GmbH..."

Board answer: We strongly suggest members should look into other form of organisations if they want BKK to stay some sort of legal entity. But be aware that a gGmbH (gemeinnützige GmbH) is also a charity and has more or less the same duties and regulation as we do have at this moment being a gemeinnütziger Verein. "Gemeinnützig" is the German term for "charitable"!

Member: *"Would a for-profit association mean that you could have a shop on the BKK website? And that we could form a whole together community, promoting ourselves and the community itself through conferences, workshops, eteams, and via social-media, market booths, ... As well as join effort on getting a PR assistant (for five or more), a tax-advisor (as a community). And who knows even a collective atelier, storage space?"*

Board answer: Yes, all of your ideas are all possible with a for-profit organisation but keep in mind that such an organisation sounds like it needs to have a structure where the labour that is invested in order to make money for member's individual businesses can be paid.

Click here to see the [full results summary](#) inducing all comments.

We've taken those comments and questions where we felt an answer by the board is helpful. If you feel like your question hasn't been answered yet, please contact us at info@berlinkreativkollektiv.com and we'll be happy to answer additional questions.