

The continued harassment of members from Mark Havens and the Blue Tape Ticket

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

Makers,

This is one of the hardest posts I have had to write. Over the past weeks, I and a handful of other members have been subject to ongoing harassment from Mark Havens and his associates with the intent of intimidating me and people that support the current board.

This harassment has taken the form of videos posted to YouTube that are intended to libel me and the other candidates. The first of these videos is an outright attack on me as a person, the second is a post of the private disciplinary hearing held for the three complaints against Mark.

For this hearing, a panel of members was appointed to ensure that the hearing would remain fair and avoid bias from me as one of the people involved in the complaint. From the start of the meeting, Mark attempted to discredit the hearing. After the hearing, he proceeded to modify the video by overlaying quotes that imply dishonesty on the part of all involved.

This is troubling for a number of reasons:

1. Mark never objected to or expressed concerns about the appointment of a panel or the selection of the panel participants.
2. Mark states in the interview that he intends to keep posting videos about me if he is disciplined for the video that is a personal attack on me. In his own words, he stated that he knows the videos are damaging, this is discussed in the meeting.
3. Mark is placing these videos with my name attached in places that are relevant to my career outside of the makerspace where they will do the most damage to my professional reputation.
4. Mark has a history of threats, intimidation, and misuse of member information that is well documented by disciplinary actions from previous boards.
5. In follow up discussions Mark has indicated he has no intention of following the rules and bylaws of the organization.
6. By publicly posting the panel interview he creates a culture of fear and intimidation for any member that may wish to submit a complaint in the future. This action creates an environment where a victim of an assault or threats cannot have trust in the system if they need to file a complaint because they know people like Mark can libel and

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submission throughout the membership and general public.

For the purposes of transparency here is a summary of the original complaint I filed:

I am filing a formal complaint against Mark Havens for violation of our anti-harassment policy.

Today Mark created a public video on YouTube and posted the link to social channels to slander me.

What? They Mean! (Did we put words in his mouth and hoped nobody would notice?)

The video contains no facts and serves only to attempt to bully and intimidate me.

This is a violation of items 5 and 7 of our anti-harassment policy.

5. Deliberate intimidation by words, gestures, body language, or menacing behavior
6. Harassing photography or recording, including logging online activity for harassment purposes

This complaint has been amended to include the direct threat Mark made to continue to post videos about me publicly and the fact that he did follow through on that threat.

The bottom line for me is that regardless of the election it is not permissible to allow a member to publicly attack another member in a way that can damage their livelihood, health or wellbeing on baseless accusations and character assassination.

I am happy to answer any questions members may have about this complaint and how Mark's actions are affecting me, my job, and my family.

Thanks, James

jswilson64

Jul 2020

FWIW, I have reported each of the Blue Tape group's videos and social media posts. Not that it does much good.

These videos have been linked on Talk ("displayed" on a DMS platform). Naming a DMS member and accusing them of wrongdoing opens them up to harassment from other members and is definitely a violation of the **privacy policy** as well.

In addition the Dallas Makerspace will not provide or display any information which **Skip to main content** or to fraud, identity theft, harassment, or provide a means for

subjecting the member to increased risk of fraud, identity theft, or which may enable another person to engage in Internet fraud or attack, or may enable another to identify, contact, or distinguish any member, without the express written consent of the member(s) owning the data.

[Rules and Policies - Dallas Makerspace](#)

mdittenber

Jul 2020

When will the panel that has been appointed rule on this matter?

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

That I do not know. Based on the fact that the panel members are now subject to a form of retaliation themselves I really don't know how it will proceed.

I do know that I will continue to do the honest thing and abstain from voting on or even discussing the panel deliberations with the rest of the board. I am doing my best to preserve the integrity of the decisions that we have to make to run this organization and serve all of its members.

Draco

Jul 2020

How is blaming others for Mark's actions even fair? Why are you associating the "Blue Tape Ticket" to this?

Draco

Jul 2020

It looks like several members including John Gorman were present at the meeting. It doesn't seem private to me.

Scott_Blevins

Jul 2020

Mark's YouTube videos definitely 'cross the line', and they represent a concerning lack of judgment that DMS members should factor heavily into their voting decision making.

Skip to main content r, President

Jul 2020

I should clarify, I can answer most of the questions,I can't answer questions from Draco because I've blocked him since he's one of Mark's followers and I no longer engage with his trolling.

Feel free to read his other posts to understand why this is my position.

Josh_Melnick

Jul 2020

How do you block people on Talk?

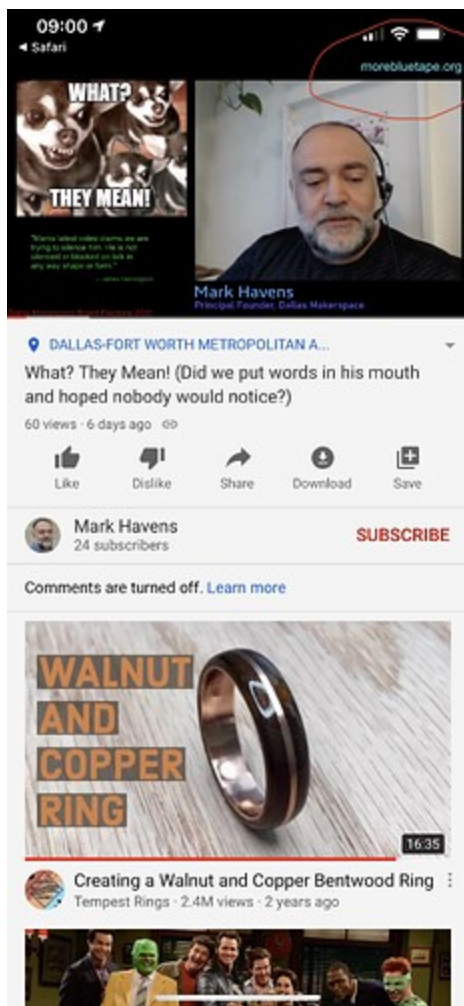
mdittenber

Jul 2020

<https://talk.dallasmakerspace.org/t/is-it-time-to-revisit-a-mute-function-bug-w-private-profiles-20200703/72432/17>

jnorine

Jul 2020



Probably because he already did? You cannot in good conscience claim that he is not speaking for them when he puts their website in his videos.

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

To Dracos questions:

Because Mark implicated them when he claimed them as his ticket and said that they were together on this. Additionally Kevin provided Mark with a separate video that was posted in the same manor for the same goals.

As to why gorman and others were there, Mark brought them with him. It was not a public meeting, but the people involved in the complaint can bring witnesses. Mark did not call them as witnesses, he just brought them as “observers”.

To imply it was public because Marks guests were there is typical of Dracos trolling tactics.

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Jul 2020

The video that you claimed is damaging to you, you redistributed in this thread? Mark was talking to you on Pearce's Unofficial DMS Discord server and to my knowledge hasn't posted it elsewhere. If it is damaging as you claim, why did you decide to further distribute it? It is unlisted.

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

To Dracos continued attempt to defend marks harassment:

It is necessary to confront the harassment publicly. I will not stand for Marks harassment or Dracos trolling attempts. It is necessary that the membership sees how Mark is trying to harm me outside of the makerspace.

It's pathetic how much effort Draco spends trying to deflect criticism from Mark and his reprehensible actions against members.

skyspook

Jul 2020

Draco:

If it is damaging as you claim, why did you decide to further distribute it? It is unlisted.

This is a pretty large fallacy, and seems like you're grasping at tangential actions that don't have anything to do with the main point in the hopes of associating a "wrong" action that would invalidate an entire unrelated point, which isn't how it works. If you'd like to defend Mark's actions, you'll need to address the main contention, that he posted videos meant to intimidate and harass that were also potentially slanderous.

[@mrjimmy](#) including a link from his original complaint and in his defense does not change the content of something slanderous, nor does it increase the actual or presumed damages. In fact, defending himself may decrease the actual damages, but doesn't change the fact that the video could be considered damaging. An unlisted video is still considered published.

Draco

Jul 2020

Mark doesn't need me to defend him. Mark did, I think, an excellent job of defending himself
[Skip to main content](#) motivated complaints, in his hearing. It is my opinion that these

complaints are only coming up now, to try and ban him before he can be elected. All three complaints recommended Permanent Ban.

I do not appreciate James' behavior, however.

ESmith  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Draco:

All three complaints recommended Permanent Ban.

Neat. You can recommend *whatever you want* when you write a complaint.

Noteworthy is that [this happened](#) in 2016:

Behavior of Two Members

- Mark Havens
 - Luke Olson moved to pass the motion as "Mark Havens is banned from Space for 9 months effective 4/24/2016, further infractions will warrant for a lifetime ban"
 - Motion passed with 3 in favor, Erik Smith and Alex Rhodes abstainin

skyspook

Jul 2020

Draco:

clearly politically motivated complaints, in his hearing. It is my opinion that these complaints are only coming up now, to try and ban him before he can be elected

And the fact these videos came out during the election aren't polically motivated, or may have something to do with the timing of the complaints?

Draco

Jul 2020

There was only one video sited in the complaint and James linked to it above. It was only distributed by Mark in the Discord Server and is not a part of his other videos.

Using video to interview people is new to DMS. I think it is a very effective campaign tool [Skip to main content](#) by itself. But again, these other videos are not what the complaint is

about.

uglyknees Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

When was the pin incident? Was that 2016?

ESmith  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Yes, that was the *triggering incident* for the complaint, however a litany of other issues were discussed at the time.

agvet Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Lol, you're joking right? Stop feigning ignorance.

axeonos Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Forgive my stupidity at this time but can you expand on that... my memory is starting to fail me

dryad2b

Jul 2020

I realize I don't have the official things in front of me, but here's what I remember:

Mark was advertising his campaign (for board?? I remember he was running, but I could be wrong) all over the walls. Plus, it was more "they're bad" instead of "I'm good". He printed buttons, at least some making fun of his opponents, and put them everywhere, including pinning one to a Star Trek uniform that was being displayed by Max. The uniform was damaged.

Actually, I suppose we do need Erik, because I don't remember at which point Mark got told to cease and desist. I do remember him acting like it wasn't a big deal and plotting what he could do to get around that.

PearceDunlap DMS Member

Jul 2020

... many times along his path. After he was told that he damaged an item
[Skip to main content](#) that another member had on display at the space mark decided to put his own art on

display in the form of a baby blanket and star trek baby onesie with a button on it, to call the member with the now damaged costume piece a baby.

michaelb

Jul 2020

dryad2b:

Plus, it was more “they’re bad” instead of “I’m good”.

I’m glad to hear that some things never change.

AndrewLeCody Makerspace Member

Jul 2020



Kentamanos Makerspace Member
[Skip to main content](#)

Jul 2020

dryad2b:

I do remember him acting like it wasn't a big deal and plotting what he could do to get around that.

IMO Mark likes to play games and even his thread about the whole thing makes that clear. To me, this reads like him effectively saying "I did some stuff to test the banning system": <https://talk.dallasmakerspace.org/t/got-banned-getting-banned-trying-to-get-banned-with-your-help-change-is-coming/8648>

ESmith  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

axeonos:

Forgive my stupidity at this time but can you expand on that... my memory is starting to fail me

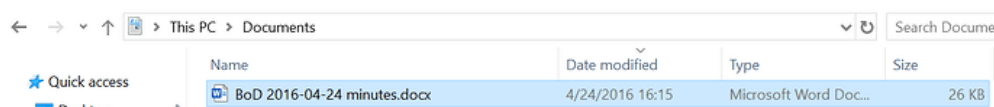
dryad2b:

I realize I don't have the official things in front of me, but here's what I remember:

Mark was advertising his campaign (for board?? I remember he was running, but I could be wrong) all over the walls. Plus, it was more "they're bad" instead of "I'm good". He printed buttons, at least some making fun of his opponents, and put them everywhere, including pinning one to a Star Trek uniform that was being displayed by Max. The uniform was damaged.

Actually, I suppose we do need Erik, because I don't remember at which point Mark got told to cease and desist. I do remember him acting like it wasn't a big deal and plotting what he could do to get around that.

I took some *detailed* notes at that meeting which I have found. I am attaching a PDF extract of the notes which have remained untouched since I recorded them:



[📎 BoD 2016-04-24 minutes.pdf](#) (225.1 KB)

[Skip to main content](#)

Pages 5-7 contain my **marginally-structured** notes (*"Behavior of 2 members"*) of what was discussed during the meeting re: Mark's expulsion. I tried to note themes and key facts and who was speaking, but the conversation was tense, fast-moving, and I'm hardly a great typist thus there are typos and some missed attributions.

heyheymama Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Zoomed in on those buttons to read them.

OMG that's horrible behavior!!!

I can't even. Am so appalled. How can anyone defend that as "community"? Could any campaign be more destructive?

AndrewLeCody Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Of note, both members who are pictured on the buttons were not asked if using their image was ok. And in the case of Alex's picture, Mark was directly asked by Alex to stop using his picture prior to this "artwork".

Scott_Blevins

Jul 2020

heyheymama:

How can anyone defend that as "community"? Could any campaign be more destructive?

Especially coming from a (ahem...🙄) 'Principal Founder' of DMS.

heyheymama Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

You've got to be kidding! Mark put an opponent's face on his campaign buttons and wrote an harassing slogan about him??? On top of using members' identities without their knowledge or consent to establish a non-profit? And now he used a candidate's identity and reputation on a website without knowledge or consent?

Where does Mark's behavior stop?

And if he won't stop and the board won't stop him, is this forever behavior?

[Skip to main content](#)

Damn, I didn't know about 90% of those complaints against Mark.

@talkers and @maxk68

You have both chosen to throw your support behind Mark. Can you elaborate on why you support this behavior from him?

It's clear he has a long history of malicious behavior and mistreatment of members.

What, in your opinion, makes him the right person to support for a board seat at DMS?

And if he hasn't crossed the line, where in your opinion, is that line?

maxk68

Jul 2020

I will make this comment on this matter on here just to be clear but I will not spend days arguing it, I agreed to allow mark to add me to a website where all of our voices would be heard, I did not sign up for a party, I only wanted a way outside of Talk to have my voice heard, I do not in any way agree with ANY of the fighting and name calling coming from both sides. I love makerpsace and think its a great idea, and just want all of this to go back like it was before all the fighting, I don't agree with any of the trash talk, the side taking or the assuming you think one way because of you have been friends with in the past.

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

Thank you Max. It's good to hear you do not support the harassment that Mark committed against me and apparently many other members.

Perhaps you should ask that the blue tape website and campaign material be updated to include a message that you don't support Mark's harassing behavior. As it stands the site presents you as essentially a running mate with him as the public face of the party.

IanLee DMS Member

Jul 2020

Why do you want a way outside of talk for your voice to be heard?

Isn't talk our sole authorized method communication between the members?

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Their talking point is that talk is toxic. A quick check of talk today will reveal it's almost exclusively members helping members. But that's their talking point.

It may have been true in the past but the current moderators have done a great job of cleaning up the conversation and giving time outs to people that get out of line. From my point of view it appears they are using the outside channels as a form of unregulated abuse to intimidate members.

merissa

Jul 2020

maxk68:

just want all of this to go back like it was before all the fighting

What is this "before" you speak of? Mark has been a main instigator of fighting *for years*.

PearceDunlap DMS Member

Jul 2020

There's also the unofficial DMS reddit and the unofficial DMS discord. Both were created to maintain the ability for members to have unfettered chat capability.

The reddit is not moderated by anyone, but maintains a former member as the owner. Predates moving to monetary lane.

The discord was created when the board from last year and the year before decided to move most of talk behind a wall, and then shut down talk completely. I thought the board had too much involvement in the talk moderation and thought we needed a separation of power there. I moderate the discord and only remove hate speech as a moderation rule.

mrjimmy DMS Member, President

Jul 2020

I didn't mean to imply discord as one of their outside channels. I think the discord setup does a good job of self moderation as well, plus it's simple block feature allows anyone to hide any troll. I think the discord is a good asset for the membership.

[Skip to main content](#) ember

Jul 2020

No implications, I was just pointing out other platforms for people other than Blog posts

mdittenber

Jul 2020

[@maxk68](#) I wish you would have come out publicly on this earlier. Any one associated with that site is toxic from my POV.

Raymond Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

maxk68:

I did not sign up for a party, I only wanted a way outside of Talk to have my voice heard, I do not in any way agree with ANY of the fighting and name calling coming from both sides.

[@maxk68](#) I also wish you would've spoken up much earlier. There are a lot of people who simply aren't voting for anyone on that site. 😞

meanbaby DMS Member

Jul 2020

I am appalled at Marks behavior, this is so not someone I would look to for leadership! His video is a personal and childish attack on James.

I seriously question if the info he post on some of the videos is accurate, it looks flubbed. Do we really want DMS info publicly posted and manipulated on YouTube?

James should seek legal advice. Also, I hope the membership of DMS thinks long and hard when it comes time to vote. You may be the next one to be publicly attacked on YouTube if Mark is not happy with your roll at DMD.

Haley_Moore Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

I think it's worth saying that being on the board of DMS does not make you a valid target for harassment.

[@mrjimmy](#) You have every right to file a complaint and you're handling this with great

[Skip to main content](#)

I'm disappointed in the childishness of this post, the nonsense complaints and whining about a few YouTube videos. If posting the disciplinary video was against a black and white rule instead of a nonsense harassment complaining, please post it.

Josh_Bishop:

If posting the disciplinary video was against a black and white rule instead of a nonsense harassment complaining, please post it.

It's literally in the first part of the post itself and the second response on this thread. Both the insult video and the disciplinary video violate the anti-harassment and privacy policy we all agree to as members when we join.

The continued harassment of members from Mark Havens and the Blue Tape Ticket

FWIW, I have reported each of the Blue Tape group's videos and social media posts. Not that it does much good. These videos have been linked on Talk ("displayed" on a DMS platform). Naming a DMS member and accusing them of wrongdoing opens them up to harassment from other members and is definitely a violation of the privacy policy as well. In addition, the Dallas Makerspace will not provide or display any information which may subject a member to fraud, identity theft, harassment, or provide ...

Here is the anti-harassment policy. Feel free to actually read it

https://dallasmakerspace.org/wiki/Rules_and_Policies#Anti-Harassment_Policy

I'm curious, if you think my complaint is childish then what are your thoughts on the many offenses of Mark Havens listed above?

Got it, it doesn't break any black and white rule, you're just abusing subjective rules because you know you can get away with the complaints. Continue on please, this is [Skip to main content](#)

I want to thank you for exposing the abuse of formal complaints in this way, I could have been doing this all along to abuse other members I've had problems with.

Lampy  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Josh_Bishop:

it doesn't break any black and white rule

Many of our Rules & Policies do have room for interpretation to allow for reasonable people to determine whether they apply in a case by case basis. We will see what the disciplinary panel returns on the three complaints in this situation.

Webdevel

Jul 2020

Josh_Bishop:

I could have been doing this all along to abuse other members I've had problems with.

You **want** to abuse other members?

Haley_Moore Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

It's covered in item 7 of the harassment policy. Publishing video or audio of someone without their consent is a violation of their privacy, even if they allowed the interaction to be recorded.

Josh_Bishop

Jul 2020

By saying it in jest it disqualified me from doing it as that would be a statement of intent to actually harass members had it been serious.

PearceDunlap DMS Member

Jul 2020

Is that how it works?

[Skip to main content](#)

Josh_Bishop

Jul 2020

You don't think so? You think I could file complaints that wouldn't backfire with the intent to harass people after posting that?

PearceDunlap DMS Member

Jul 2020

But if I make a joke first it makes it so I couldn't have possibly done it later

Draco

Jul 2020

This post was flagged by the community and is temporarily hidden.

PearceDunlap DMS Member

Jul 2020

That's not what DVD stands for and you know it

Josh_Bishop

Jul 2020

It means you'd be stupid to do it later after stating intent, are you saying you or I are stupid?

PearceDunlap DMS Member

Jul 2020

That's bait

Draco

Jul 2020

I think we have gotten a bit off topic.

I think I agree with Josh on that this makes James look bad.

People make worse comments all the time.

James ... Q-TIP Quit Taking It Personally

Mark ... James will learn his own lessons, soon enough

Both of you act like adults ...

[Skip to main content](#) that was posted above with all the buttons was Marks Artwork not
max s ... Anyway, that ship has sailed a long time ago and Max and Mark have gotten along

for years now.

Video is a new platform and can be impactful.

I don't think it was Mark's intent to harass James but it was done in such an unusual way that it seems more over the top than it was.

We seem to be numb to abuse written in text. Go back and read some of the Sol threads. Dumpster fire there.

This video seems to be a Discord moderation issue not something that should be raised to the level of a Formal Complaint and Ban. Send it back to the moderators, seems to be how all the other Formal Complaints ended up.

AndrewLeCody Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Draco:

And people ... that quilt that was posted above with all the buttons was Marks Artwork not Max's ...

That's literally the point. It was his "artwork" that he made to make fun of people.

Anette_Henningson

Jul 2020

Yes, I believe the destruction of other people's work, there are several instances that have come to light, and various other actions on Mark Havens part are concerning.

heyheymama Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Draco:

quilt that was posted above with all the buttons was Marks Artwork

So if he calls it "artwork", that waves a magic wand and makes the harassment "okay"?

Draco:

Anyway, that ship has sailed a long time ago

[Skip to main content](#)

Patterns shouldn't be dismissed.

When a board is considering consequences, it's not just what did he do this time, but also is he likely to repeat? And his last ban says that if he repeats the board should consider a permaBan.

Draco

Jul 2020

heyheymama:

Patterns shouldn't be dismissed.

When a board is considering consequences, it's not just what did he do this time, but also is he likely to repeat? And his last ban says that if he repeats the board should consider a permaBan.

Indeed. Not the same things at all. This is a Discord moderation issue and not even similar. This board has sent all the other Formal Complaints about this sort of stuff back to the moderators.

PearceDunlap DMS Member

Jul 2020

Draco:

This is a Discord moderation issue and not even similar.

Wat

Raymond Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

IKR?

I have yet to watch Mark's videos. I have been in several meetings with Mark and the other More Blue Tape Candidates. I feel that the 'Blue Tape' candidates united because we all have issues with the all the fights and bickering which have reached new heights over past year. The complaint from James is just the latest in a very long list of issues that this Board has had with a large number of DMS members.

James has no issue with attacking anyone which does not agree with him. James wishes to take Mark's words and judge everyone else which opposes his re-election, but yet he and his Board elected Freddie as an officer but seem to distance themselves from Freddie's comments.

The reality is that the space used to be fun, and most people agreed that the space was fun. For the past year, we have had numerous committee chairs quit, declined membership numbers, expansion delays, record number of bands, etc... a huge amount of conflict. The things published on Talk and Discord have been shameful.

To insult all the Blue Tape candidates because we share a common vision to replace this Board is just as childish as the complaints you make against Mark.

The question for the membership is whether they would like to see the events of last year repeated, or would you rather see I space with new leadership and new ideas? The discussion should be about the future of the space and not complaints from four years ago...

hon1nbo

Jul 2020

worldcloud:

I have yet to watch Mark's videos.

Then, frankly, shut up about it. You have no business attacking James if you refuse to even bother looking at what in the heck is being complained about

This is why people joke about the blue tape group. Lots of arguing without even bothering to look at the evidence first. Literally arguing for the sake of arguing.

lukeiamyourfather  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

^
[Skip to main content](#) ice this board? Y'all share a common vision to blowhard. I don't think you have any idea what you're talking about. I appreciate that you're willing to go out

on a limb and run for director but I think you'd be terrible at it and I think so would the rest of the candidates you're associated with.

Lampy  Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

worldcloud:

The discussion should be about the future of the space and not complaints from four years ago...

This is true but I have yet to find any forward looking plans on your slate website. Please share what More Blue Tape plans to do.

Raymond Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

worldcloud:

expansion delays

Blame the previous board for their share of it - hidden contracts, supposed NDA with poison pill, spending enough to put DMS at the edge of solvency, etc. If the expansion had gone through the way they wanted and DMS was put in the financial position it would've been put into then I don't think it would've survived this far in to COVID as well as it has. We as an org would be in a world of hurt.

Instead, we have a member who is a PE ([@richmeyer](#)) who took things over and made things happen at a pace where we could be realistic about phasing it in affordably. DMS is better off because of HIM and what HE did for us as a group. This is what should've been done in the first place and that is something the current board had to work through.

worldcloud

Jul 2020

Jim... You tell me to 'shut up' but yet you respond to every post- even those which where you are not mentioned. I don't need Mark to form my own opinions about James and/or the current Board. The post took issue with the More Blue Tape ticket, so I feel that I was entitled to make my own comments and have my own opinions. My purpose in responding was intentionally not to argue for/ against Mark, but to express my own thoughts. Telling me [Skip to main content](#) or a debate of issues and it's the reason why people don't like you

on Talk. In person, you seem to be a nice guy, but on Task you are mean and aggressive and telling me to 'shut up' is simply evidence to that behavior.

Luke... You barely even know me, so you telling me that have no idea of what I'm talking about is hardly a substantive debate and calling me a 'blowhard' is what's wrong with Talk. You are entitled to your opinion, but instead of discussing issues- you are simply calling me names- stop wasting our time. This is what's wrong with Talk- there is no respect for those with whom you disagree. The graph on the bottom of the morebluetape.org site came directly from DMS numbers. Discussing those numbers seems like a reasonable conversation, even if everyone will not agree on the root cause, but instead of talking numbers (or any other issue), you call us 'blowhards'. There are plenty of topics which may affect this next Board, and to call us blowhards for raising a discussion on these topics is not in the best interest of the space. Even if we are completely wrong, explaining/ proving these points will far more to inform, educate, and unite our members than calling names.

Lampy...

On a personal level, I barely know any of our Board members, so I want no part of the personal insults which are going around. I trust that they are all reasonable people which want the best for DMS. I have issues with the toxicity that I see at the space over the last year and as our leadership, the Board owns some of this responsibility. I also have issues that some of the Board members and officer have not shown respect to members- in person, on Talk, and on Discord.

My view is that the Board and the committee leadership seem to working against each other. Four ex-committee chairs have publicly vented about the relationship with the Board. I was also in attendance at several of the Beer and Bitch sessions where committee leadership also vented.

Dealing with fiscal issues is always going to offend some people; however, if every committee was required to submit a budget and required to meet certain goals (classes, recruitment, etc); then many of 'one-off' requests to the Board could be avoided and the committees would have more ability to plan and make their own decisions.

I feel that many/ most discipline issues should be handled at the committee level, and if the offense is too serious for a committee chair to handle it, I feel that the committee chair should 'promote' the issue to the Board and/or a Discipline Review Panel. In other words, no more double jeopardy where if someone disagrees with the committee chair, then the accused get 'judged' twice. We need to do everything we can to limit the number of issues the Board must deal with, thus a Review Panel which can focus on these issues, not as a replacement for the Board, but as a tool to manage these issues and make non-bias

recommendations

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I do not concur that banning Kris had a significant effect on our membership numbers as James inferred during the 'Meet the Candidates' meeting; however, I feel that the Board could have done more to combat the allegations which they were actively targeting any friends of Kris. It could have been discussed as an agenda item for all to read about and then discussed the topic. The lack of 'open conversation' gave the topic up to 'hear-say' and Talk gossip- two places where issues rarely get resolved.

Similarly, this Board has put fewer items on the agenda than the former two Boards. As members (rightfully or not) have begun to grumble, actively discussing these issues would be a way to acknowledge issues. I realize that Talk is designed to handle (some) of this; however, some of the Board members and officers have failed to show respect on Talk, further fueling the 'us versus them' mentality which seems to have run rampant over the past year.

The Board seems to have the idea that there are 'good members' and 'bad members'; the problem with that is when members feel like the Board is randomly deciding who gets put into each group. The impression that the Board is judgemental towards concern members also fuels the 'Us versus them' mentality.

The 'Us versus them' mentality is tearing the pace apart, and is one of the factors in our decline of membership. If I only had one goal in serving on the Board would be to stop all this bickering, complaining, insulting, and attacking.

Few members have a problem with the fiscal decisions that have been made, few members have a problem with rules; I feel where this Board has failed is that they have allowed the "Us versus them" issues to create a level of toxicity around the space. In short, the fights and attacks are the issue; much more than the issues...

Lordrook

Jul 2020

worldcloud:

If I only had one goal in serving on the Board would be to stop all this bickering, complaining, insulting, and attacking.

That's an excellent goal! How would you go about executing it? I think that would be an uphill battle as you often times can't change someone's feelings on a matter. How does one go about changing someone's opinion about something you may/may not have done in the past?

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Draco:

I think we have gotten a bit off topic.

James ... Q-TIP Quit Taking It Personally

Mark ... James will learn his own lessons, soon enough

...

Video is a new platform and can be impactful.

I don't think it was Mark's intent to harass James but it was done in such an unusual way that it seems more over the top than it was.

While I recognize that I, too, have not watched the video, I trust James when he says that it's slander, in the legal sense. Sure, folks say garbage here all the time, but this (while it is "public"), doesn't reach the wider public.

And I don't really trust Mark. My impression of him is that he gets off on manipulating people.

Scott_Blevins

Jul 2020

worldcloud:

The question for the membership is whether they would like to see the events of last year repeated, or would you rather see I space with new leadership and new ideas?

I guess we'll find out soon enough.

My money's on the DMS membership to be able to correctly discern which candidates are qualified and responsible enough to lead DMS through a difficult year ahead.

agvet Makerspace Member

Jul 2020

Discussing those numbers seems like a reasonable conversation, even if everyone will not agree on the root cause, but instead of talking numbers (or any other issue), you call us 'blowhards'.

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There's been plenty of explanation and discussion about those numbers and in every topic I've seen about it, when asked for a response from Blue Tape and how they'd fix it, no one seems to be able to do so. And there's no explanation on how they'd fix it on their website either, so I'm not sure they actually have a game plan or even have anything of substance to say about those numbers (or any other issue, given the lack of any plan).

And when they're all talk and no substance, they are, by definition, a blowhard.

an exceptionally boastful and talkative person.

Draco

Jul 2020

I haven't heard that the numbers are wrong. I am totally open to discussing the technical aspects of the graph on <https://makerspacedata.com/Dallas-Makerspace/> Please let me know if you find errors or have any questions on the technical aspects but lets do that in another thread.

As far as what the numbers mean in the context of possible solutions ... that is another topic.

coloneldan Blacksmithing Vice-chair

Jul 2020

I don't usually post on talk about politics either the national or the DMS kind, but from my point of view anyone that demeans or belittles another member is NOT excellent, which is what I think DMS should be. Speak your viewpoints, discuss your differences and demonstrate your willingness to make DMS a better place sure, but you don't need to attack another member to do this.

I say vote NO to any member of the Blue Tape group just because any association with people who bad mouth others is just bad leadership. I love that we have a diverse group of people with a very diverse group of ideas, but I don't like it when you have to tear down another member for your own personal gain.

We need leadership that is inclusive, diverse, and that is dedicated to making DMS a productive and amazing makerspace. There are lots of ways to accomplish this, but tearing each other down is not one of them.

I think in moments like these, it's worth taking stock in how objectively amazing this entire situation is.

In the midst of the drama, covid, and all of the other messes, Havens had every opportunity to totally use these distractions to basically squeeze his way into the board, but the man just couldn't help himself. He made one Hillary Clinton level throw after another. Let's count it down.

1 The blue tape crew is a tremendous strategic folly. Any mistake your fellow crew members make automatically becomes associated with you. It might be fine if the other members of the crew are incredibly vanilla and don't shake things up too much, but who did he choose to run alongside? King, Patel, and Kirkland... Regardless of how you feel about them, this alliance draws attention TOWARDS Havens problems, not away from them.

2 The videos...

Look... Those tactics are perfect if Mark is targeting uneducated voters who are very easy to manipulate and are distant from the people he is attacking. For example, if my only interaction with Hillary Clinton is through Trump media, then Trump-like tactics are perfect. You can clog my opinions full of bullshit to the point where I think shes a satanic pizza pedophile.

Unfortunately for Mark, this doesn't apply in this election. Members see most of the other candidates all the time and actually know the candidates personally. They also communicate with them on the same forums... So all you've done is given your opponents free reign to point out how dishonest you are on the very medium where the active voters communicate most. Mark, you have twenty something subscribers on that YouTube account and you probably lost 5-10 potential supporters for each of them.

3 Lying on things that are contestable and not bothering to lie on things that are hard to contest. Where is the response to the 50 questions? If the crew has already responded, it took them too long to do so.

4 The website.

I was undecided on two people prior to the website...

I was fully decided on all people after the website...

5 Androwski...

Why in gods name did Blue Tape Crew try and rope him in when it clearly appears that he didn't want to be roped in? He made you guys look like fools. You didn't have to do that...

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You had four people. What were you trying to gain by roping him in? The dude's in Digital Media and you already have Patel???

I can go on and on.

If Mark gets on the board, I will be amazed. Thoroughly amazed.

MachtNichts DMS Member

Jul 2020

Hear, hear, well said, darn well said!

MachtNichts DMS Member

Jul 2020

kthompson395:

If Mark gets on the board, I will be amazed. Thoroughly amazed.

You forgot disappointed, terribly disappointed.

kthompson395:

satanic pizza pedophile

Darn, I was sure the Russians were behind that one.

New & Unread Topics

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
Mitch Cerroni is OK	0	113	16d
Continued Call for Assistance - Officers and Coordinators (Marketing)	0	75	14d
Starting the DMS pollinator garden Skip to main content	10	201	6d

Topic	Replies	Views	Activity
Lost and found clean out	13	247	1d
Putting plants in the ground	0	60	2d

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