

Korea Local Nodes - 2025/02/18 08:00 EST - Transcript

Attendees

Christopher Lema, Eugene Leventhal, Gen Lee, Shinya Mori, Songyi Lee

Transcript

Eugene Leventhal: So yeah,...

Eugene Leventhal: today's Tuesday, February 28th, and this is the South Korea local nodes catchup call. Sorry, I just missed the whole recap on my end. I forgot to record that. Not going to make everyone listen to that again. But yeah, send me please.

Songyi Lee: Yes.

Songyi Lee: So in Korea unfortunately maybe Jen you can give me a second opinion about but we talked about this among many years. we do not actually have a very concrete ethereum community there mostly event around event and there is also very small community of people and then now finally there is a one community called ethereum tam which is ethereum explorer and it's actually put together by this group of friends who actually is running econ so

Songyi Lee: in Korea and Ethereum ecosystem for either OGs or the real Ethereum people that this community or this event is more significant than is ESOL has a little bit of interesting history shared just speaking with some other even Vitali this maybe we want to take out out of the recording but it's more like a near cone than the ethereum cone because of the host of the event the personal relationship with the near.

Songyi Lee: So that's what I feel like so instead of engaging if we have to engage like event I don't think we need to at this point but whatever we move on from that conversation and I think engaging the Et explorer telegram group that are run by seven really OG Ethereum builders that I feel like they're really aligned the better approach

Songyi Lee: coach and we had a chat with a Jenna which is one of those seven and then Jane from scroll team about this we just had a personal catch up with me and Jane and then Jenna was with me so she joined it and it was kind of evolved into the scroll chat but I think what's really needed in Korean ecosystem Ethereum has a huge huge gap between the market and Korea tends to be very very very popular from the project because of this retail market. but the builder market and retail market has really divided but the builders have such a good understanding of a macro and there's a few good people but we actually never came together.

Songyi Lee: So if scroll or any ethereum community need to be really founded it's quite random but it would be really great to have a inerson meeting and do some sort of whatever events for two day or three days and invite all the Ethereum aligned humans in Korea and that will be really helpful to put our vision together and put

Songyi Lee: the understanding of ecosystem together and then Jane and I we talked about from very beginning of her journey at the scroll that if scroll wants to invest in Korea is it can't be just scroll only it has to be ethereum as well that's quite unfortunate because we don't have a soil to see to come and land it unfortunately so if scroll can contribute and local node can actually form that way I think it will be probably the most impactful

Songyi Lee: thing and bring your intellectual honesty cuz Jenna and myself and Jen Prudy probably agree as well that when we look at different L2s it's not like because we are part of the delegate I mean there is a reason why become a delegate on scroll and then getting active is also scroll might be having the best chance of winning in Korea and winning in Asia so we really want

Songyi Lee: to come in not as a let's scroll promotion and scroll hackathon and scroll branded events or anything like that but bringing real intellectual honest comparison with other L2 and what is scroll is doing and Jenna is committing to do that work instead of we are promoting scroll by hey this is really interesting about scroll and that could be applied into Korean ecosystem or Korean system or something like that. So that would automatically happen once we kick off with a local node and I think there is some sort of consensus that we will be able to do that.

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Songyi Lee: But in Korea, in my opinion, I think really starting from soil building, that's what needs to happen in the long term. And once we have that soil bill, I think Korean builders and community members are super fast and they're really active once they get into that mode. So I think from there we can totally build up something. And I also share with Jana what's her challenge has been. and it seems like that the Korean builders are a little bit spoiled in terms of they only build something when there is a money or, there is always some conditions.

Songyi Lee: and so how can we coming and approach the ecosystem not as a givea but building together as creating mode and if we could start with a very small event of bringing the Ethereum core people and align humans and then scroll being a supporter of that and then participating either Jane and other people who are building scroll and then broader ecosystem that would be great and I am confident once we do that that we will come up with many different idea not just three of us doing it but whole ecosystem can vouch for it so that's kind of my long-term vision into it yeah thank you for listening this long convers

Eugene Leventhal: That's great. Yeah, we tremendously appreciate that context and especially getting that sense of how much is it important or at the stage where you have to nurture the wider community and then let the specific trees blossom so to say versus just starting with a very specific thing. so yeah, that definitely makes sense. I guess to get to just double click then on the idea of the potential first event. do you see that Chris, did you want to jump in first?

Christopher Lema: I think you can finish your thought. My only question was I think on a comment Si made around incentivizing the builders and them wanting funds or something like that. I guess as we plan out the local nodes we've been thinking more broadly as to we view meetups as the first stage of development right that's like hey we want people to know who we are like what we're doing what we're about informing them and as these nodes like mature there are obviously different ways that you could go about right whether that's doing more like boot camps hackathons conferences buildathons or whatever they want to do. and one of those was even considering a local nodes grants program. so I think it would also be good to just start even thinking about what is the amount that these builders are looking for right?

Christopher Lema: Are they looking for \$10,000 grants where they're just like hey I just want to explore kind of a little fellowship or are they looking for \$100,000 250,000 to even make sense of this right I think that would also be helpful context for us as you know we're thinking about how much money does that really need to allocate if they really want to make an impact here long term not just like we're just going to fund meetups indefinitely and that's it right I think there are more bigger plans that we see is panning out and just I think that would be helpful to note as we think are long term for this.

Songyi Lee: 100% to answer that quickly. when I say builder, I think not general builder but highclass builder who can actually build product already and ship it. these people tend to be shopping L2. That's the thing. So we can build this we can build that we can build that and then when they have a meeting with the different tools or even different protocol they're like how much support can you give and then unfortunately the ecosystem wasn't again coming from the bottom up so the key protocol including probably scroll strategically approach to this high class builder and then the dim for them is also maintaining their

Songyi Lee: business and then also stick for what's actually best for them. So I think it's a fair things to do that but we don't want that to only happen. as you said Christopher once we have the soil building I think a lot of initiative come out from there and from there I think money isn't the issue. I think it's more like a grant level and there's so many different thing we can do and then at that point I think we could have or even creating our own resource to do something so that will be the most idle from bottoms up level

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Eugene Leventhal: Yeah, that definitely makes sense. and so I guess potentially to zoom into that first meetup idea, because I know when we were just kind of messaging about it and it first came up, I was envisioning that as kind of a couple of hour, maybe half day type thing. Was I correct in hearing Soni when you were saying that it might actually be better as almost like a mini retreat kind of thing that's like a two to three day let's really come together and recognize just assess what's going on recognize the gaps and start thinking about how to fill them and nurture this broader community. I just wanted to make sure was that kind of what you're envisioning? Yeah. Okay.

Eugene Leventhal: And so as part of that I guess it would just be interesting to maybe double click into that and if you had to guess how many people are we talking a 50 person I'm assuming this isn't going to be a 10,000 person thing. what do you see as the realistic size of the amount of folks who would want to join that kind of more focused session and...

Eugene Leventhal: building that

Songyi Lee: Yeah, I mean...

Songyi Lee: if we have a thousand people to invite, I think we don't need to even do this. I think I would love to actually hear from Jen as well. But if I can share my vision, I think probably 20 to maximum 25. We will be very lucky to find these people to come out who is building and really Ethereum aligned people. I see few people that is in our circle but also in Ethereum explorer and there is a lot of people that I also start to notice that have a high knowledge about the macro market and also not only the building technology but also the retail market and everything. So I think we need to have a combined voices in the room and then led by integrity.

Songyi Lee: I think that would be probably my role and...

Songyi Lee: Jen and Jenna's role to do that. and 20 25 max and it could be 15 as well. It depends on how many people will be actually available and then interested in coming.

Eugene Leventhal: Yeah, Jen,...

Eugene Leventhal: is that kind of similar to what you'd be envisioning for that first kind of gathering? And would be interesting to hear your thoughts.

Gen Lee: Yeah. I was just thinking of the sense making sessions we had a couple of years ago or maybe even last week too, For you. yeah.

Songyi Lee: Yeah, it was last year and...

Gen Lee: Yes,...

Songyi Lee: not last year.

Gen Lee: I'll be surprised if it's more than 40. 20 30 sounds good. maybe even before that I think I'll have to figure out...

Songyi Lee: And what do you think about general approach like doing the soil building first and then building on top of that?

Gen Lee: who those people are the existing scores maybe because I can't really gauge like how I haven't thought of this idea so I would need time to answer it correctly...

Songyi Lee: But you agree that sensemaking is needed and then it will be very beneficial if we do this kind of event to build a long-term ethering vision in Korea.

Gen Lee: but I do think we do need some new approaches to okay so builders are shopping around L2s so how do we build a different relationship and maybe that soil building can be one solution. So yeah and yeah and this is another topic but just to add more context to what I sent on telegram ethole can be one example but I was just thinking more very small light gatherings not much money or energy preparing it just cuz for example I didn't know there was something going on Brazil next week there's something in Japan happening everywhere so we can't try to harvest everything, but maybe if there are delegates who are interested in small breakfast, then why not kind of

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Songyi Lee: Yeah, for that also is in terms of so building we've been talking about this building Ethereum community monthly meetup and stuff like that and then Lance is already promised that they will provide a space if we want to regularly and I think it's really important that I don't know how Euzen and Chris will feel like put Ethereum first and then scroll as a good partner. and then the best elto partner because people still don't know much about the scroll. So if we do a scroll event what's going to happen in Korea is if a scroll is listed in a update or be the people who are interested in that hype they were going to show up there nothing to do with the building and then we will be wasting our time and energy probably.

Songyi Lee: So if we keep doing the monthly durian meet up which doesn't cost much we have a space probably a little bit of snacks or something like that and then have a builder to come and then share and we can even call it in from oversee to really share what is actually needed for the builder and then really building that long-term relationship with the ecosystem and the scroll be the main partner for that. I think that's the best out of CAT we can do and then score will be automatically naturally exposed to that and I think we desperately need that rhythm of a meeting otherwise I think we're just going to invest in the correct container

Gen Lee: Yeah, I mean plus one on what Sony just said. So I think one problem will be how we build relationship with builders who are spoiled shopping around and two for Korea would be like if we say we go to market let's say successfully then would people see it as a promotion to buy scroll token or as an invitation to come build with us? I think that can be also very tricky question. So

Eugene Leventhal: Yeah, of course. I mean, I'll give kind of my perspective. Chris, keep me honest here if this is just my own or aligning. But I mean, I think I'm always a big fan of, long-term commitment, trying to nurture an actual broader community and showing through partnership and just trying to actually nurture this broader community through that people see that you're an exciting partner as opposed to just come in with, here's a ton of money and come to us and ignore all the others. and just cuz that sets up a transactional basis that whoever has the biggest wallet at the moment will always come in and win and that I don't think benefits anyone long term.

Eugene Leventhal: so yeah in my mind you know what you're saying with these smaller meetups nurture a broader ETH community maybe do some kind of a listening retreat or however it would be framed but the small kind of two to three day thing for the core builders and from there especially see when and where there's enough interest to start doing more scroll specific education and even a lot of the level up stuff right a lot of it is a little more general It's not all of course there is scroll specific stuff in there but we are also interested in nurturing this kind of broader ETH community just because I think at this point there's been no shortage of people who point out there's only so many people building and we're all just competing and kind of stealing from each other as opposed to nurturing the folks who have the talent and skills and maybe even interest and just don't see a way to get into it.

Eugene Leventhal: So yeah, that feels very aligned and of course, not being on the ground and feeling what's there and especially for both of you. I feel like you have such amazing perspective both in Korea, in the region, around the world and just what different communities are looking like. So yeah, I very much also look to you and respect your opinion greatly on kind of what is the right order of operations to build it. so yeah, I mean what you were both saying now feels kind of clear at a high level of what needs to happen and of course I'm interested in digging into the specifics. but yeah, at least broadly this sounds exciting.

Eugene Leventhal: and yeah, we'll definitely be happy to see how we can best fit into nurturing that kind of broader community and when it feels like the right time to start doing, whether it's specific ZK things or, specific L2 things or specific scroll things and we could figure out the right, places to put that in without making that the center point to avoid, again, just coming off as overly transactional. and trying to just beat out the others real quick until someone with a bigger treasury comes in and does the same.

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Songyi Lee: So speaking of the next step, I think we can start to design how that two to three day gathering could look like and what I'm expecting from that to come out is really bringing the people who

are really aligned with Ethereum values and Ethereum builders and whoever really into Ethereum and then hearing

Songyi Lee: their perspective about general Ethereum and then also Korean market and then where is the overlap is and then what do you think is needed to be done and I'm pretty sure we will have many great idea and then we're going to list that and then maybe start forming working group whatsoever some might align with what scroll does and GK and stuff like that some might not but I think I know scroll's integrity so generally what we come out it will be all we can actually squeeze in the scrolls agenda into it.

Songyi Lee: and we will be very honest about it where this is coming from although we doing the Ethereum things but we are supported by this node and then this is going to be our intention but try not to derive from the Ethereum sorry scrolls conversation but it's good for us even to leave it open and then listen and observe as much as we can and then do some connections and then weaving stuff into the ideas and what is need to and then come up with some action plan and then keep supporting this Ethereum explorer group. I think they don't have to work with us but I think it's a great opportunity for us to work with them in my opinion.

Songyi Lee: So we keep supporting them and then definitely monthly meetup will be one of the top agenda to keep doing that and that we want to be not less networky but more technical builder driven and so builders that are building deep in the mountain or just online and they can come out and then actually meet and have an intellectual conversation. That's one thing that we miss a lot and compared to at KL there is a lot of technical people that are interested in supporting each other but in Korea when we go to meet up it's generally about market price and a very genetic stuff and then fireside chat the speaker just speak and leave and it's just the soul is not there so we tried to focusing on that and then other stuff will come out like engaging with students and then research

Songyi Lee: Arch market understanding and then even retail market what's the best community strategy and stuff like that will all come out in my opinion and then we can harvest that and have it as our resource and then do whatever we need to do from there when let's talk within Korea and then continue with you guys and when will be the best I think we should also engage Jane from scroll team and then also Jason who is now with everybody Jane and then Raza and all Jason another Korean guy amazing builder I think in Hong Kong to build something together. So we already have those few key people from Korea and unfortunately this might be best only Koreans.

Songyi Lee: So we were just focusing on the Koreans and then once we have a scroll presence I think we can invite our other scroll teams or community from other Asia country and continue do so. and I don't know I have no idea when will be the good thing but it's not going to be in a month's time. probably between May and June or something like that will be probably the best. and I will start to design how it look like and then put some budget and then what will be the initial thing and then little different expenses or budget that could be required to continue with ...

Songyi Lee: but that is TBD but I can't come up with something that is more tangible for this first gathering

Eugene Leventhal: That would be great. Yeah, thank you so much there. And I guess I also want to say right in the context of the local nodes where I think the goal is to get to the point where there's effectively a Dow proposal right in this context that could potentially include the 2 to three day gathering as well as monthly meetups for 6 to 12 months and kind of include that as one proposal. I know Jen you did mention that Eats Soul is coming up and it might not be a bad idea to hold a small meetup around that if

there's appetite for that. I just wanted to make sure to call out right the foundation can potentially move quicker to just support a single meetup or two to not have to wait for the full Dow vote and develop a larger proposal.

Eugene Leventhal:

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Eugene Leventhal: we could do something leaner of just get a sense of costs, make sure Jane is invited. and yeah, we can kind of assess that and move forward with something like that. and then yeah, it sounds like maybe by April 1st for that voting cycle if we can get an actual proposal up if possible or the May one, whatever feels appropriate timing wise. but yeah, I would definitely be happy to support Suni how I can over the next 3 to four weeks to kind of put together that proposal. and as needed, we can have a bigger call in one of the two Wednesday slots to just update folks and get others excited about it. but yeah, this definitely sounds like a great kind of starting point for supporting that.

Eugene Leventhal: so yeah, I guess a specific question is there anything that I can specifically do to help? I know I'm going to catch up with Jane next week as well. and I'll invite her to the local node telegram group. so she can just be in there and we can include her in the chat. but yeah, I guess is there anything specific that from my end would be helpful at this stage?

Songyi Lee: I think you're doing great and I just wanted to thank you guys once again for being really open for this long-term vision. and I'm grateful that we work with a scroll that is actually understanding and be flexible with what's really needed from the market and understanding and respect actually...

Songyi Lee: what market or region need and country needs is a rare quality to find these days. So I just wanted to thank you guys for that.

Eugene Leventhal: of course.

Eugene Leventhal: And that goes both ways. Thank you all for doing all the work you're doing in terms of nurturing a real community and connection amongst people. And we're excited and honored that we get to collaborate with y'all on stuff like that. So yeah, super excited to kind of see where this goes. and excited to both follow up on whatever the short-term need might be for a single meetup. and yeah, Jen, let me know what we can best do there for supporting around it. or after whatever that timing looks like and then supporting Suni and kind of developing that proposal and seeing what that looks like and getting it in front of the DAO.

Eugene Leventhal: I guess Chris, just double checking on your end, wanted to see if there was anything else you wanted to make sure we brought up or that might be missing from the conversation so far from our perspective.

Christopher Lema: I think we covered everything so far. I'm excited to see, what step one looks like. I think larger conversation is sort of, the point of, the different builders. especially competing with, or just looking out when they're trying to pit one L2 against another, which is very common outside of also Korea. I think the question there for us is it worth fighting that battle or is it better to just invest in other funnels that could potentially lead to other builders, right? but I think that's something that we can discuss later on. It's just I think some of the thoughts I've had as we've had this discussion.

Christopher Lema: cuz for us I think that's something that the L2 space has sort of spoiled a lot of builders. there's just a lot of free flowing capital and to the builder's advantage. they can always pit one grants program against another and try to be extractive. in some cases just is that game worth playing long term? and that's just some things we just have to kind of figure out as well. but yeah, that's it on my end. Thank you so much. appreciate you all trying to, figure out how to get this started and we're happy to

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Songyi Lee: And another small thing about what we discussed in pagod I think now people are getting ready to do more like a GM research really like a global majority research and then it continued to be the issue that the research either proposals and what's happening in the L2 space or beyond it doesn't go as deep as what it needs be to understand about it.

Songyi Lee: So that's another conversation to park but I think it's soon time because of course when we talk about that I have so many opinions about that but I think for scroll to be really successful we have to find what only scroll can do what is scroll good at and then what market each market is needed so we have to find that the middle ground otherwise there's no point doing that and I don't think that any of the market at least in Korea and the market that I know didn't went that deep into that the research part.

Songyi Lee: So that's something that we'll be super interested in continue not just as a pagoda but as a GM thing continue from the last year.

Eugene Leventhal: And I guess...

Eugene Leventhal: if there are specific research questions to explore or proposals or I mean I'm just throwing this out there obviously we'd need to discuss in more detail but if it makes sense for GM and the community you're building there and scroll to put together a small RFP for some research proposals that can potentially be funded by scroll kind of better understanding the market and landscape and elements like that and it's it all being public research. I mean research is important for us and we've already supported a few initiatives even just a few things that we see as important for us to understand but we immediately want to open it up and make it available for everyone.

Eugene Leventhal: So yeah, definitely open to kind of exploring that as well in addition to the community and local node activities that we're talking about.

Songyi Lee: Sounds good.

Eugene Leventhal: Yeah, great. So, yeah, I'm excited to follow up. I know, yeah, next week is East Denver, so things are and both Chris and I will be at that, so things will be a little hectic. on our side. but yeah, I'll definitely be following up and then starting March, we're actually going to have one more person on the team supporting as a governance facilitator. So, we're excited to announce that soon. but yeah, you'll get to see another person helping us out and driving this forward. so, yeah, please do let me know if anything else specific comes up.

Eugene Leventhal: In the meantime, I guess maybe just to make sure we have a specific followup on the calendar, would two weeks from now, the same time work as a potential time to follow up on that first week of March. And of course, we'll touch base async,...

Eugene Leventhal: but that would be Tuesday,...

Songyi Lee: That will be...

Songyi Lee: what is it? What's the date?

Eugene Leventhal: March 4th. So, this was at 8 a.m. Eastern in the US UTC minus 5. That should be good.

Songyi Lee: If I hope I'm survived.

Eugene Leventhal: Yeah. Are you still in Brazil at that point or already back in Korea?

Songyi Lee: No, no, I'm gonna be going to San Francisco. I think things leaving here 3, so that will be my first day landing there. yeah.

Eugene Leventhal: We could also do later in the week potentially if that's easier to give a boost. Yeah, we'll adjust if needed closer to it. But yeah, let me just put that in the calendar. So, we make sure to have that. So, I added that to the governance calendar. And then, we're also, as a quick aside, looking into solutions to make it easier to just track the, updates for the local node calendar invites and immediately get those on your calendar. I think I found one tool that might be able to help us with that. So, yeah, you don't just always have to keep track of the full calendar.

Eugene Leventhal: Yeah, of course. yeah, I think that's it for now. So, yeah, I really appreciate both of you taking the time. and excited to continue the conversation.

Songyi Lee: Thank you so much.

Songyi Lee: Yeah, thank Euzen and FYI, I invited Borderless to engage on the Kenyan conversation. So, let's see if that will happen.

Eugene Leventhal: Yeah, for And I guess as Yeah, we are also exploring and trying to make it out to magma specifically. So, we feel like if we're there on the ground, that will also be a little easier to generate a little more energy and...

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Eugene Leventhal: hopefully identify those community partners and just help advance that in person.

Songyi Lee: Yeah, I think it's going to be a really good even space to discuss a lot of different thing and...

Songyi Lee: governance related stuff too based on the participants at the moment.

Songyi Lee: So, it will be so good to have you guys and then we're going to talk about all sorts of different things. Okay.

Eugene Leventhal: For sure.

Eugene Leventhal: And I realized just one last thing I meant to mention earlier that I forgot that you just reminded me. in general from our perspective, keeping things very builder centric is obviously important, but we recognize not everyone is a technical builder and we want to make sure there's meaningful pathways. And we're looking at this kind of governance participation is hopefully another specific pathway that gets people excited who aren't just the pure I'm ready to go build and ship a product. So

yeah, excited to see how that comes up. But also if you're hearing of specific type of learning pathways that if there's a big community of designers or...

Eugene Leventhal: a big community of X type of skill set that might be interested in kind of getting a pathway nurtured that's another aspect that we are very excited to learn about and see how we can best support. so yeah,...

Songyi Lee: Yeah, 100%.

Songyi Lee: Yeah, more to it. I will leave you a voice message around that particular piece.

Eugene Leventhal: Perfect.

Songyi Lee: All right. Tow chow.

Eugene Leventhal: Thank you both so much, Enjoy the rest of your day. Janet, have a good night. And Shina as well.

Gen Lee: Thank you guys.

Eugene Leventhal: And yeah, thanks, Chris. Bye.

Meeting ended after 00:36:55 🖐️

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