

DPRG RBNV Summary – Jan 21, 2025

Summary

- **Bruce Wilson** discussed using the **Aider code companion** for ROS Jazzy development, noting its ability to generate code, add doc strings, and manage dependencies. He was following a tutorial by devdan, and mentioned that Aider uses an LLM, understands markdown, and can be guided with python comments. Aider edits files, and VS Code displays the changes. The YouTube channel of IndyDevDan, who Bruce Wilson was following for the Aider tutorial, can be found here: <https://www.youtube.com/@indydevdan>. Of note is Aider offered to maintain various build-control files, such as package.xml
- **Paul Bouchier discussed the upcoming annual meeting**, including the election of officers and a proposal to replace the librarian position with an IT officer. He also discussed the responsibilities of the different officer positions.
- **Paul demonstrated his MinnieBot robot** running Linorobot software, and discussed the hardware, including a hat with motor drivers and an interface to the LiDAR. Paul discussed the **Lino robot software**, which supports multiple drive types. The wiki page for the linorobot2 hardware is here: https://github.com/hippo5329/linorobot2_hardware/wiki.
- **Doug Paradis discussed his experience with a Raspberry Pi AI hat** that offers 13 TOPs of performance, and proposed demo-ing it at the upcoming meeting
- **Doug also asked about using WSL2 and running Linux on a virtual machine. Mike Williamson, Pat Caron, and Karim Virani** discussed the pros and cons of these approaches. Pat Caron described using Virtual Box and obtaining cheap Windows licenses. Pat Caron shared a link to **HQ keys**: <https://hqkeys.com/windows/>.