

KARO-ECHO Membership Meeting

December 13, 2021

via Zoom

Attendees

Hal Graboske	KK6NDF
Howdy Goudey	KE6BEE
Don Simon	NI6A
Annette McCoubrey	KJ6SWK
Tom Fattaruso	KN6BUY
Frans Kuypers	KJ6IUV
Karen Leong Fenton	KK6ZPM
Jay Fenton	KJ6WSS
Blake Yeaman	KN6CMP
Susan Yeaman	KN6CMR
Curt Smith	KM6HFT
Martha Richards	K6ELO
Kristen Gates	KM6TBG
Aaron Kurth	

Agenda:

Approval of Minutes and Agenda

Treasurer/Funding report

Election

- KE Board Officer Nomination and election (Don, Annette)
 - Thanks to departing officers
 - Installation of new officers (at end of meeting)

Training

- Debrief/discussion of Fall SET
- Digital Net report
 - Winlink, Monday, 1930 on 12/20

Old business

- Report from KE Constitution Update Committee (Don, Martha)
 - Vote at Jan 10, 2022 meeting
- Pursuing an MOU, next steps

New business

- Membership dues reminder
- Online payment for website
- In-person meeting location scouting (committee?)

Tech./Infrastructure

- Report on new antennas and patch boxes
- Equipment maintenance (lead/volunteers/schedule)

Elmering

- Recent request/updates

Outreach/PR/web

Neighborhood nets and Comm. hubs

- 1st Wed., reports

Installation of new officers

The meeting was called to order.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the November meeting minutes.

A motion was made, seconded, and passed to approve the agenda.

The treasurer's report will be emailed to board members.

The 4 members nominated for the officers positions for 2022 were approved by a vote:

President: Howdy Goudey

Vice President: Frans Kuypers

Secretary: Tom Fattaruso

Treasurer: Annette McCoubrey.

Training session

Review of Nov. 13 fall SET

- 40 voice and 6 digital messages were successfully passed. The practice message scheduling worked better than in previous SETs.
- There was constant activity with messages and relays but it could have been done more efficiently.
- An audio recording was made, it could be instructive to listen to it.
- It will be important to have FRS/GMRS neighborhood net operators in the future to get neighborhood level information to the ham operators.

Digital net report

- The success we had in the SET in passing several digital messages was a result of the digital net group learning how to use digital modes and practicing sending and receiving digital messages.
- If both the sending and receiving stations are operating correctly digital messages are faster than voice messages.
- We have used the simplest and most reliable digital modes so far. The next mode to learn about will be winlink.

Business session

Old business

Constitution

- The constitution update turned out to be a bigger job with more changes than was originally anticipated.
- No more suggestions for changes can be accepted now but suggestions for future changes will be recorded by the secretary to be considered at the time of the next update.
- A vote for approving the new constitution will be taken at the January membership meeting.

Memorandum Of Understanding

- The wording for a MOU continues to be discussed by a committee.
- An MOU is complicated by the relationship between El Cerrito and Kensington.
- The wording so far mostly describes what has already been happening.

New business

Treasury, Dues

- We hope to encourage more dues paying members.
- A suggestion was made to have a clearer explanation on the KE website of dues-paying members privileges.
- A second attempt, coordinated with the first efforts, is being made to set up a PayPal account to make it easier to pay dues.
- Authorization to control the treasury bank account will need to be moved to the new officers.

In-person Meeting

- The KCC is still a possibility for an in-person meeting location but it may take a while to get the approval.
- We are still looking for other options we can afford and that we might be able to use earlier.
- There is a possibility that an MOU might contribute to finding a meeting location.

Technical / Infrastructure

- The El Cerrito Parks and Recreation department has been contacted and approval will probably be given for installing antennas and patchboxes at some of the clubhouses.
- Approval for a patchbox at the KCC has been given.
- A maintenance committee is needed to check and maintain clubhouse or fire station radio equipment.
- A maintenance binder exists with a servicing chart from a previous effort at regular maintenance but nothing has been done recently.
- A proposal was made to put in the newsletter a request for volunteers to perform maintenance tasks.
- Caution was suggested for using maintenance effort at locations we could not access in an emergency situation.

Elmering

- A few questions were asked about VHF antennas and antenna matching.

Outreach / Recruiting

- Blake presented an outline with aims of outreach.
- A suggestion was made to follow up on Rob's suggestion to revise the questionnaire that accompanies the website "join" function.

The newly elected officers for 2022 were pronounced to be installed.

A motion was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn the meeting.