

KARO-ECHO Membership Meeting

December 12, 2022

Hybrid In Person and Zoom

Attendees

In Person:

Howdy Goudey	KE6BEE
Frans Kuypers	KJ6IUV
Annette McCoubry	KJ6SWK
Tom Fattaruso	KN6BUY
Hal Graboske	KK6NDF
Karen Leong Fenton	KK6ZPM
Jay Fenton	KJ6WSS
Ednalee Warnecke	KN6VTY
James Marks	KN6VTC

via Zoom:

Don Simon	NI6A
Jerry Michaels	K6KOP
Blake Yeaman	KN6CMP
Martha Richards	K6ELO
Lorraine Schnurr	KN6CRT

Agenda:

Call to order/logistics

- Introductions
- Approval of Minutes
- Approval of Agenda
- Treasurer's report

New business

- Election of officers for 2023

- Report from the Election Nomination Work Group
- Open for nominations from the floor
- Vote
- Soliciting member ideas for next year and future agenda items, etc.
- Reminder of annual dues renewal

Old business

- MOU with EC-K Fire Dept
 - Follow-up planned for early 2023
- QSL card

Outreach/PR/web

Tech./Infrastructure

- Equipment maintenance team report
- New antenna/s and patch box/s
 - Gear in hand for three installs
 - Canyon Trail Clubhouse
 - Castro Clubhouse
 - Kensington Community Center
 - Public Works contact retired, follow-up in early 2023

Elmering

- requests to elmer@karoecho.net

Neighborhood nets and Comm. hubs

- 1st Wed., reports

Training and Operations

- Discussion of training questionnaire

Adjourn

The meeting was called to order.

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

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

Treasurer's report:

- The end-of-year treasury total was greater this year than last year although the exact amount was not available at the time of the meeting.
- The calculated figure will be available for the next meeting.
- Dues for 2023 are due in January.

Business session

Election of Club officers for 2023

- No members who would be willing to accept a nomination for a club officer were found this year but the four 2022 officers agreed to continue for another year.
- The election of the same 4 officers who served last year was approved by a unanimous vote.
- The nomination committee was thanked.

MOU

- No further progress has been made with our MOU proposal and the new fire chief.

QSL card

- Our club QSL card is almost ready to be printed.
- Another change suggested was to remove "Contra Costa County" from the card because not all KE members operate in Contra Costa County.
- By printing only the front of the card and leaving the back blank, the card could be used as either a general purpose postcard or a QSL card if QSO information can be printed on the back of the card with a laser printer. To confirm this is possible we should ask the printer whether a card that has been printed on the front may be put through a laser printer to be printed on the back.

Outreach

- When our postcard/QSL cards are printed, one use will be to send to new licensees to tell them about KARO-ECHO.
- Probably the most productive outreach we can do will be to contact new licensees.

Technical/Infrastructure

- Howdy KE6BEE had been trying to contact Bill Driscoll to arrange the installation of antennas and patchboxes at city clubhouses but was getting no response. Later it was learned that Bill Driscoll had retired. The next step will be to find out who to contact now.
- Howdy demonstrated a computer program controlled storage battery discharge tester. In actual tests it was found that some storage batteries were not actually capable of the AH rating they had been labeled as.
- A new license-free technology some members have been experimenting with, LORA Meshtastic, uses wi-fi frequencies for short range contacts. Sending and receiving short messages similar to text-messages may be possible.

Training

- We are soliciting ideas for training subjects that members would like to learn about.
- An on-line questionnaire/survey was sent out and 10 responses have come back so far.
- Don NI6A lined up a speaker, Mike Patterson, for the February membership meeting.
- A suggestion was made for more membership meetings time to be used for training and less for business topics.
- The organization of practice messages in future SETs was discussed - whether to have practice messages scheduled or to have the timing and number of messages improvised by the participants. Scheduled practice messages might be less realistic but if the messages are not scheduled there may be much less actual participation.

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