

KARO-ECHO Board Meeting

11/09/22

via Zoom

Attendees:

Howdy Goudey	KE6BEE
Frans Kuypers	KJ6IUV
Annette McCoubry	KJ6SWK
Blake Yeaman	KN6CMP
Tom Fattaruso	KN6BUY
Hal Graboske	KK6NDF

Proposed agenda:

- MOU follow-up (response from new chief)
 - Interested in a Standard Operating Guide (SOG) for emergency communication to include KARO ECHO
- Printing QSL card
- ARES affiliation
 - Received 6 forms, Jim, Ednalee, Frans, Martha, Karen, Jay
 - Training, review levels of skill, relation to ARES levels?
- Other ideas and main meeting agenda items?
- Added to agenda: continued use of post office box

Topics discussed:

MOU, response from new fire chief

- We received a response from the new fire chief but it did not directly address our continuing attempt to have the MOU we wrote signed. The new fire chief suggested a SOG, or Standard Operating Guide, be written instead.
- It's unknown when writing an SOG would happen and there was no invitation to meet to discuss it.
- Other than Kevin James, we don't know whether the fire department understands what we offer in an emergency. We don't know whether the fire department is interested in what we provide but we will continue to make our service known.

QSL card

- Rob K6RJM made suggested changes to the club QSL card design and it is ready to be printed.
- We would probably only use a small number of these cards per year.
- Blake KN6CMP volunteered to get printing quotes.
- Frans KJ6IUV volunteered to pay for the printing.

ARES application

- More specific instructions are needed on how to submit the filled-out ARES application to Howdy.
- What happens after submitting an ARES application also is also not understood yet.

PO Box

- Our PO Box costs \$217/year and has had no mail sent to it since our PayPal account was set up.
- The box is difficult to open and apparently cannot be repaired.
- At the membership meeting we will ask members' opinions about whether we should keep the PO Box.
- If the box is kept, Annette KJ6SWK would like to have it moved to the El Cerrito main post office.

KE operators from other cities

- Since our organization's name implies our operators are from Kensington and El Cerrito, a question that needs to be clarified is how to include operators from other cities..

West County EMCOMM Net

- The West County EMCOMM Net that meets at 6:45 before our net is not as active as it used to be.
- KJ6DJ is stepping down from keeping up the net control schedule and Howdy will be managing the schedule now.
- There is no longer a connection between this net and the county so it is uncertain what should happen with this net. One suggestion is to change it to a once a month check-in net on the repeater.

Dues

- Should yearly dues be increased to \$35?
- For some members KARO-ECHO could be just one of several clubs they belong to with a requirement for dues.
- Another option could be to not increase the dues but ask for donations for general use or donations for a specific project.