

BREA Zoom Meeting Minutes 05/11/21

Minutes recorded by L. Miller

Contact Information:

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA

BNL Bldg. 400A

BERA Recreation/ Attention BREA Meeting

Upton, NY 11973

Present: A. Moodenbaugh, J. Baum, D. Cox, C. Davis, R. Clark, A. Feldman, L. Fishbone, R. Hackenburg, L. Hanson, M. Israel, L. Kouchinsky, J. Lemley, B. Lin, S. Shapiro, D. Sievers, B. Siskind

Absent: M. Rowe

Officers 2020-2022: President: Arnold Moodenbaugh, Vice President: Lillian Kouchinsky, Secretary: Laura Miller, Treasurer: Les Fishbone, Membership Secretary: Beth Lin, Newsletter Editor: Mona Rowe

1. Call to order. Arnie Moodenbaugh.

- 1:01 pm

2. Minutes. The minutes of the April meeting were recorded by Laura Miller. Minutes are being revised and approved by BREA officers, and sent for publication on the BREA website. Mark Israel motioned to accept minutes, all approved.

3. Treasurer Report. Les Fishbone

As of 4/30 the balances for the savings and checking accounts and the certificates of deposit (one matures late this year, the others Feb of '22 and '23) totaled \$29019.60.

There was no activity on any account during April. Mark motioned to accept the report, Lil Kouchinsky seconded. Passed unanimously.

4. Membership Report. Beth Yu Lin. Prod lapsed members for renewal.

Beth will provide current membership list to A. Moodenbaugh. We should also plan to establish an email distribution independent of BNL HR. New members: John Bigrow, Peter Wanderer. Current paid membership is 281. Email: 252 members. From last month to date Beth received 4 checks for dues for a total of \$155, which she will send to Les. The two new members each receive free membership for one year.

When notifications of BNL anniversaries come out, an idea is to send an email to employees being acknowledged for 35 and 40 years at BNL to get them before they retire (addresses would still be available at BNL.gov).

Action: Arnie will work on the membership list.

Action: Arnie will confirm that new retirees at the lab are getting information about BREA.

Suggestion: If we provide the letter or other information to HR for inclusion into retiree packets, we should see if we can get it printed on colored paper to make it stand out a little more.

Action: If anyone still has their copy of the letter that HR includes in the retirement packet, please send a copy to Arnie.

Action: Arnie will follow up on the possibility of retirees being allowed on site again after BNL allows greater access.

Questions: What happens if someone signs up for the lifetime BREA membership while still an employee and then leaves before retiring? This needs to be researched.

Is the BNL bulletin still disseminated weekly? Yes, via email, but it's not the bulletin as such.

Mark motioned to approve the report, Don S. seconded, report approved unanimously.

5. Newsletter. Mona Rowe will report on items to be reported in the May/June BREA News.

Mona wasn't at the meeting but sent in a report. The next newsletter will be the July/August. She will include the President's message by Arnie, plans a 2-page photo spread on changes at BNL and also plans to include Beth Lin's letter on the HFBR stack when she and husband Mow Lin first arrived at BNL and Beth's memory of working in the Biology Department with Bill Studier doing his T7 research upstairs.

6. Community Advisory Council. Mark Israel will report if there is any CAC activity. The May meeting is May 13, and will include an Environmental update, a presentation on the electron ion collider, an infrastructure overview, a NEPA report from Tim Green and "Using Gamification and Artificial Intelligence in Streamlining Analysis at NSLS II" by Daniel Olds. Mark will report next month on the May meeting. CAC doesn't meet in June, July, and August.

Mark sent a link on the HFBR stack demolition to some people and there is a time video that shows the demolition. A final report on any contaminants, etc. may be issued around the July timeframe, but the stack is down and the demolition went very well.

7. BNL operations continue in Phase 2, with gradual approach to normal operations. The bulk of the lab staff is still not working on-site; only 1800 people are allowed on-site at a time. Retirees are not allowed on the BNL site, with only minor exceptions. Any official BERA activities are prohibited onsite, which also means we are prohibited from scheduling in-person BREA activities. This includes the luncheon.

8. Potential talk on computer security. Arnie Moodenbaugh.

Arnie didn't act on the latest updates. He will follow up next month.

Action: Laura will put her action items in red and italics.

9. Election of BREA officers. Every two years we elect officers, and our next election will be this fall. In the past we established a nominating committee that identified candidates, and we will do so again. We welcome volunteers and willing nominees to stand for election. We also must assure that the **vital** unelected posts of Newsletter editor

and Membership Secretary continue to be filled.

Start thinking about fall election and how to nominate new people for the positions. We need a Nominating Committee. In past years, the Nominating Committee consisted of previous presidents, but there is nothing in the bylaws about this. Any member of the organization is permitted to run; contact Arnie or any other officers to suggest your name or any other retiree's name. Schedule: There is no meeting in August, we'll start considering this in September. Arnie would like to try to have names by the end of summer. The new term starts in January, the election is in December, so candidates should be in the November/December newsletter. The slate should be decided by October and sent out by November, and ballots counted by December. Information should go out by mid-October. Suggestion: send a newsletter to everyone in November. If we can include information about expiring memberships, that would be useful for people who get the newsletter electronically. Two issues: getting ballots to people so they can vote and deciding where will those ballots be mailed back. If mailed to the Lab, someone needs access to get them. Or Christine would have to pick them up and get them to Arnie.

Arnie has the membership list and will use that. Arnie prefers that one newsletter a year be printed and sent out to the members to confirm addresses, etc. If concerned about anonymity, people should put an unsigned envelope into another envelope and send the ballot.

9. Possibility of a luncheon in the Fall of 2021. Scheduling can only occur after BNL permits in-person BERA activities.

As mentioned previously, any planning needs to happen after BNL opens up and allows more access. We can't start planning until BNL/BERA gives us the 'go ahead'. We still need to talk to BERA if we decide to do something a little less formal, such as a luncheon outdoors and offsite (diners, restaurants with tents)? Christine made a point to Arnie about continued suspended activities. But if it's not 'official' maybe this would work. A possibility is late August/September.

10. New Business

D. Sievers: about 3 weeks ago he made an appointment to get a J&J vaccine at Sam's Club. He went there, arrived 16 minutes early. The pharmacist was very nice. During inoculation, he was told by the pharmacist that they have an overabundance of all 3 vaccines and people don't need to make an appointment, they can just go in. Note that it's not necessary to be a member of Sam's Club to use the pharmacy

11. Adjournment. Don motioned to adjourn, Ronnie seconded, motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 1:59 pm.