

BREA Minutes

Meeting Date and Place: Tuesday, Feb. 9, 2016; 1:00 PM, BNL Berkner, Rm. B, Upton, NY

Minutes recorded by Secretary Arnold Moodenbaugh (Moodenba@optonline.net)

Attendees: Robert Brown, Victor Casella, David Cox, Les Fishbone, Eena-Mai Franz, Sheryl Gerstman, Louise Hanson (phone), Joseph Indusi, Robert Kinsey (phone), Jim Lemley, Corinne Messana, Arnold Moodenbaugh, Mike Schaeffer, Liz Seubert, Steve Shapiro, John Skalyo

Contact BREA:

BNL Bldg. 400A

BERA Recreation / Attention BREA

Upton, NY 11973

Sign in sheets were circulated for attendees. Names collected are shown above. President Liz Seubert opened the meeting just after 1:00 PM.

1. Minutes. Minutes for the Jan. 12, 2016 were accepted by voice vote of those attending.
2. Treasurer's Report By Steve Shapiro (Treasurer): Current balance is about \$38,000. BNL is billing BREA about \$1500 for the BREA blanket mailing of the December Newsletter. Future mailing costs are to be covered fully by BREA, since BERA funding for activities was cut. Report was approved by a voice vote. Consider a BREA donation to TESLA facility restoration at Shoreham (nonprofit website <http://www.teslasciencecenter.org/>)
3. Membership Report by Membership Secretary Sheryl Gerstman: 42 checks received totaling about \$890. Membership count is 62 lifetime and 366 paid. 117 additional members/ex-members are in arrears.
4. Newsletter report by Editor Mona Rowe with information from Anita Cohen. Upcoming newsletter to include article on Elliot Auerbach (deceased), feature on Richard Hahn, who is associated with Nobel Prize research, feature on Rhoda Sparrow (100 years of age). Mona Rowe commented that the newsletter will also provide information about the compromised personal information thefts from OPM. (The US Office of Personnel Management handled the bulk of BNL employee security clearance investigations.) The upcoming Constitution revision will also be noted (see 5.) Can BREA set the Annual Retiree lunch specifics in time to include in the upcoming newsletter? see New Business 7a.
5. Constitution revision. Liz Seubert suggested that the Constitution keep detailed procedures to a minimum. The current draft will probably have few changes before the final draft is set. The revision process and the web location of the draft will be noted in the next newsletter. Comments are to be directed to Arnie Peskin. Members can request a mailed copy if they do not view on line. The following newsletter will have the final draft and instructions for voting. Votes sent to BREA by mail should have VOTE on the outside of the envelope .
6. Health Insurance issues: Taben group (new HRA) seems to have made the transition with little paperwork required by enrollees. The automatic payment is sent on about the 20th of the month, about 10 days later than the previous HRA group. One attending retiree related his experience when opting back into the BNL retiree insurance program after having been covered by another plan. He had

neglected one step in the process. Other retirees who were not covered by BNL retiree insurance and are re-enrolling should be careful to follow all instructions from BNL HR and keep in contact the HR when opting into BNL retiree health insurance.

7. New Business:

a) From 5: Annual Lunch preparation. This is usually held in early June, often the second wednesday or Thursday (June 8 or 9 this year). Liz Seubert will contact Lilian Kouchinsky to see if she will accept responsibility for initial arrangements for this year's lunch. [Ed. note: after the Feb. BREA meeting, Lillian Kouchinsky was contacted and has agreed to coordinate the 2016 Luncheon. The planning for the 2016 luncheon is under way as of mid-Feb., with the announcement planned for the May/June newsletter.]

b) Members might be interested in knowing that Microsoft NARRATOR is included in Windows 10. It "reads" text so vision impaired users can hear written texts.

Vote to adjourn approved.

Next meetings:

Tuesday, March 8, 2016, 1:00 pm, BNL Bldg. 400, Rms RSB 1 & 2

Tuesday, April 12, 2016, 1:00 pm, BNL Bldg. 400, Rms RSB 1 & 2