

# BREA Minutes (approved by voice vote at May 8, 2018 meeting)

## Contact Information:

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA:

BNL Bldg. 400A

BERA Recreation / Attention BREA

Upton, NY 11973

**Meeting Date and Place:** Tuesday April 10, 2018; 1:00 PM, BNL Building 400 Conference rooms 1 and 2, Upton, NY. Minutes recorded by Secretary Arnold Moodenbaugh.

**Attendees:** Violet Bezler, Nate Carter, Victor Cassella, Anita Cohen, Cheryl Conrad, John Dabrowski, Eena-mai Franz, James Giacalone, Pat Giacalone, Jim Higgins, Georgia Irving, Mark Israel, Yosi Kehayias, Joseph Kehayias, Robert Kinsey, Jim Lemley, Beth Yu Lin, Ken Mohring, Arnold Moodenbaugh, Carol Ogeka, George Oldham, Elizabeth Seubert, Steve Shapiro, Donald Sievers, Barry Siskind, John Skalyo, Ed Sperry, Jackie Timko, Tom Timko.

Officers 2018-2019: President: Steve Sharpiro shapiro@bnl.gov; Vice President: Bob Kinsey bobkin@optonline.net; Secretary: Arnold Moodenbaugh moodenba@optonline.net; Treasurer: Lillian Kouchinsky lkouchin@yahoo.com; Membership Secretary: Beth Lin hellobylin@yahoo.com; Newsletter Editor: Mona Rowe msrowe.hi@gmail.com.

**1. Call to order.** President Steve Shapiro opened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Sign in sheets were circulated for attendees, with names collected shown above. It was noted that the March meeting was canceled due to bad weather.

**2. Minutes.** Draft minutes of the February meeting were circulated. Approval of the minutes was deferred to later in the meeting, since draft minutes are no longer being posted on the BERA/BREA website. Draft minutes of this and future meetings will be circulated by email to BREA officers and chairs (as has been customary) and to members present at this meeting who have provided an email address.

**.3 Treasurer's Report.** In Lillian Kouchinsky's absence, Steve Shapiro provided the treasury report. About \$800 in dues was collected. \$500 was paid as a deposit for the annual Luncheon to Bellport Country Club. \$480 was paid to BNL for printing and distribution of the March/April BREA newsletter. Treasurer's report was accepted by voice vote.

**4. Membership Report.** Beth Yu Lin reported two new members, now a total of 482 on the rolls. Of those, 356 are paid to date (more renewals due on Jan. 1 may still be received). There are 106 lapsed memberships. Steve Shapiro inquired to Beth-Yu Lin about procedures to add new members to email list (communicate with Chris Carter) and to mailing list (quick copy).

**5. Community Affairs Council CAC.** At the March meeting David Manning spoke on BNL history. The retirement of DOE site manager Frank Crescenzo was announced. No meeting is scheduled for April.

**6. May/June Newsletter.** No information is available at this time about content for the next newsletter.

**7. Planning for Annual BREA Luncheon: Bellport Country Club, 12:00 -4:00 Wednesday June 13.** Liz Seubert reported on planning for the 2018 annual Luncheon. Sign-up form will be in the BREA newsletter. Liz Seubert and Arnie Moodenbaugh visited several alternative sites for the Luncheon, but concluded that the Bellport

Country Club will continue to be the host. It provides the best combination of food, atmosphere, and price. Price of the luncheon for members and their guests will be \$40. BREA will subsidize about \$3 per plate for members, as well as the full price for guests of BREA, including Pete Genzer, Chris Carter, a photographer, Denise DiMiglio, Melissa Schuchman, Erin Getter, Robert Lincoln, Renee Warno, David Manning, and a guest speaker. The menu begins with 1/2 hour of hors d'oeuvres (12:15 to 12:45). Lunch will start with a Caesar salad. Main course choices will be steak Forestiere, chicken Allison, or herb-crusted salmon. Dessert will be tiramisu, with coffee and tea available. There will be a cash bar for non-alcoholic and alcoholic drinks. Liz indicated that there will be a 50/25/25 drawing. Other raffles for prizes will not be held this year. Name tags will not be prepared prior to the lunch; attendees will fill out name tags for themselves as they enter. Liz is asking for volunteers to take care of these tasks. A table will be provided for WHPP (see 11a below) cancer medical screening representatives to inform retirees about this service. Potential speakers mentioned were Robert Tribble (topic being accelerator developments including E-RHIC) and John Hill (research at NSLS-II).

**8. Medicare Card change.** New Medicare cards will be issued which will no longer use a Social Security number as part of the account number.

**9. Changes to TIAA/CREF BSA retirement plan.** Mark Israel led a discussion on the changes to the BSA retirement plan. Changes have been made to the plan by BSA to make sure the plan offers appropriate investments and provides better information on plan expenses. All participants should talk to a TIAA representative soon. Investment options will change. There is a more immediate concern for some retirees receiving periodic payments. Because of the changes, **retirees currently receiving periodic payments may have payment discontinued after 20 April.** Affected retirees should receive a letter from TIAA dated 6 April that alerts them to this problem. These retirees must complete paperwork to restart payments. Retirees should also check with their financial institution to confirm that all payments from TIAA expected after 20 April have been deposited. It was also suggested that a BNL retiree (typically a BREA member) could be added to the BSA Retirement Committee (chair Peter Ferraro).

**10. BREA Logo.** Steve suggested a contest for a new BREA logo, with the prize being a Luncheon ticket.

**11. New Business.** **a) WHPP Worker Health Protection Program.** George Oldham said that BNL has a lower participation rate, and that payments are available for cancers that may be related to worker exposures. Contact information is available on the BNL website. **b) Field Trip.** Ken Mohring suggested a possible field trip to Cornell Extension in Riverhead could be planned for fall. **c) Tesla Museum.** Mark Israel inquired about the status of any donation/cooperation with the Tesla Museum. Steve Shapiro said there have been no developments.

**2. Minutes:** Minutes of the February meeting were approved by a voice vote (March meeting was canceled due to weather).

The meeting was adjourned by voice vote.

Future meeting dates are scheduled to take place at 1:00 PM on the second Tuesday of the month, tentatively at BNL RSB Bldg. 400 rooms 1&2: May 8, June 12, July 10, (no regular meeting in August), and Sept. 11.