

# BREA Minutes (approved at April 11 BREA meeting)

**Meeting Date and Place:** Tuesday Mar. 21, 2017; 1:00 PM, BNL Bldg. 400 RSB rms. 1&2, Upton, NY; this meeting was rescheduled from Mar. 14 due to inclement weather.

Minutes recorded by Secretary Arnold Moodenbaugh.

**Attendees:** Violet Bezler, Victor Cassella, Les Fishbone, Joe Indusi, Georgia Irving, Mark Israel, Hyon-Jo Kehayes, Robert Kinsey, Terry Kneitel, Bill Leonhardt, Jim Lemley, Arnold Moodenbaugh, George Oldham, Arnie Peskin, Liz Seubert, Steve Shapiro, Barry Siskind.

Contact Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA:

BNL Bldg. 400A

BERA Recreation / Attention BREA

Upton, NY 11973

President Liz Seubert opened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Sign in sheets were circulated for attendees, with names collected shown above.

**1. Minutes.** Liz Seubert circulated the February minutes. (Draft minutes had previously been posted on the BREA website.) Minutes were then approved by voice vote.

**2. Treasurer's Report.** Steve Shapiro reviewed the assets in credit union accounts. He noted that costs of BREA newsletter, \$464, paid by check. Costs have been reduced by about \$100 because about 70 members have opted for electronic delivery of the newsletter. Treasurer's report was accepted by voice vote.

**3. Membership Report.** Beth Lin was absent. Report was communicated by Liz Seubert. There are currently 459 members, with 406 currently paid up. The number of unpaid members has been reduced due to the efforts of the membership chair.

**4. Newsletter.** Mona Rowe communicated plans for the newsletter to Liz Seubert. She developed an item on the new BNL badging policy. A short discussion of the exposition of the policy ensued. It was suggested that the publication of this newsletter item be postponed until BREA officers discuss with a BNL Human Resources HR representative. Other items planned include description of BERA trips, the annual BREA luncheon, and death notices (including the death of Dr. Peter Paul).

**5. BREA annual lunch.** The BREA annual luncheon, as were several earlier luncheons, is scheduled for the Bellport Country Club [Ed. note: luncheon is to be held at 1200 on Wed. June 7]. A list of menu options was circulated among those present. Informal votes were taken on options, with a plurality of votes deciding. Chosen items are: Classic Caesar Salad, choice of main courses, 1) Steak Forestiere (red wine and mushroom sauce), or 2) Chicken Verano (in tomato/pepper/artichoke/ mushroom sauce), or 3) Salmon (with lemon/dill and bisque), and dessert of Apple Crisp ala mode.

**6. Retiree Badging.** There is a change in BNL badging rules that will affect families of retirees. The President of BREA will request a meeting with HR manager Robert Lincoln to discuss these changes.

**7. Presentation about Little Flower school and group home.** (background information about the organization at [www.littleflower.org](http://www.littleflower.org)). Regia DeAlmeida, a teacher at the school, discussed the possibility of BNL involvement in science-related and other projects at Little Flower school. Ms DeAlmeida discussed some of the challenges of working with students at the school, most of whom are residents at that location. Potential for BNL

interactions include participation in a monthly cultural program, development of a recycling program and help with energy conservation, helping children to use computer technology (now minimal resources) at the school. More generally, mentors could encourage students interested in science and technology. A goal is to prepare older students to enter the job market and perform useful tasks in adulthood. Also attending the presentation was Scott Bronson of the Stakeholders and Community Relations Office (SCR). Omar Gould (SCR) oversees a BNL busy mentoring program, but the social environment at Little Flower could be challenging. Peter Pohlot (BNL Environmental Protection Div.) is a contact for conservation and recycling efforts. Scott Bronson suggested a possible tie in to Little Flower using an ongoing open space project. Mel Morris (SCR) oversees an open space project in SCR.

**8. New Business. a)** An attendee asked about other National Lab. retiree organizations, with the intent of re-connecting with colleagues retired from those institutions. It was suggested that that attendee contact Dave Cox, who has contacts with the other organizations. **b)** [Ed. note: a member mentioned to me that BREA make clear the membership status of spouses. I also thought that BNL employees terminated or resigned, but not eligible for BNL retirement, be eligible for BREA membership (or some type of non-voting associate membership) under some circumstances. This issue may become more important if layoffs due to budget reductions are widespread. ]

Meeting was adjourned about 2:30.

Next BREA meetings are scheduled for:

April 11, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)

May 9, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)

June 13, 2017 - South Room Brookhaven Center

July 11, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)

(location tentative; check for an updated location in Agenda posted on BREA website the week of the meeting)