

# BREA Minutes

**Meeting Date and Place:** Tuesday, May 11, 2010; Bldg 400, RSB Conf Rm 1

**Attendees:** Elliot Auerbach, Dave Cox, Alyce Daly, Ronnie Evans, Eena-Mai Franz, Louise Hanson, Ken Mohring (via phone), Martine O'Connor, Richard Skelton, Myron Strongin, and Joyce Tichler (via phone)

Eena-Mai Franz opened the meeting at 1:03pm.

Copies of the April 2010 minutes were circulated. Alyce Daly moved to accept them; Elliot Auerbach seconded. Louise Hanson asked about the email distribution of the minutes. She had sent a draft of the April minutes to all the April attendees for comments, but wondered if there were more people who should be receiving them. It was decided that the email distribution list needed to be updated and that Eena-Mai Franz and Dave Cox would attend to this after the meeting. The minutes will also be posted on the BREA website.

Ken Mohring, who is away until early July, will mail Eena-Mai Franz the appropriate paperwork to extend signature authority for BREA's accounts to Eena-Mai and Dave Cox. Dave offered to drop off the signed forms at the bank.

Martine O'Connor gave an update on the June 9<sup>th</sup> BREA luncheon at the Bellport Country Club. Another announcement appeared in the May 7<sup>th</sup> Bulletin. To date, we have 64 people, a goodly number, this far in advance. Alyce Daly and Dave Cox offered to phone attendees from previous years who have not yet responded. Carol Kramer has sent out the invitations to the VIP guests. Ronnie Evans has finished the photo collage. Question – who did the name badges in the past? apparently, Flo O'Brian and the BNL graphics people. Dave said he will check into this. This year the table decorations will be balloons instead of flowers. Helpers for the setting-up should arrive at 11am (the event is 12-4pm). Carol Kramer will be taking care of the raffle, a 50/50. Alyce offered to provide two baskets. Alyce also asked that there be a brief remembrance for the active BREA members who died this past year, to acknowledge their contributions. These include Flo O'Brian, Bob Marr, and Graham Campbell. Eena-Mai Franz, Dave and Martine will meet later to decide upon a schedule and scripts for the formal part of the program. The hoped-for main speaker, Lab Director Sam Aronson, has not yet committed. If the Director cannot attend, he will send a representative. Ronnie Evans said that Slava Vero has accepted BREA's invitation to attend and speak about SeniorNet. In addition, Bill Baker, also of SeniorNet, plans to attend (as a paying guest!) and say a few words.

Dave Cox reported on the Newsletter. He has included all the items suggested at the April meeting. It is essentially complete; he emailed a "final draft" to the Board for comments. He would like to hear back from Joseph Falco on the Energy Employees Occupational Illness Compensation Program write-up before sending it out. Ken Mohring had a small correction. Eena-Mai Franz thanked Dave for an excellent job. Eena-Mai has not yet asked Mona Rowe if she would take over as editor.

Eena-Mai Franz has spoken to Mona Rowe about bnl.gov email accounts for retirees. Mona suggested that the situation might be settled once and for all by inviting Thomas Schlagel (information Technology Div), Michael Dooling (Business Systems Div), and Tony Bowman (HR) to a BREA meeting. Those present agreed that they should be invited to the July meeting. Eena-Mai has decided to put off speaking to Sam Aronson about this issue until after BREA meets with these people.

The latest on the updated BREA Brochure: Dave Cox has emailed Liz Seubert about including it as an insert in an issue of The Bulletin mailed offsite. This would be a one-time distribution, as a means of reaching BNL retirees who are not currently BREA members. (HR will not give BREA retirees' addresses). Liz had no objection to the insert and said she would look into how it could be done. She had not gotten back to Dave with this information by the time of this meeting.

Ronnie Evans reported on SeniorNet. They will have another open house and registration for this summer on June 15 at the Yaphank Annex. Slava Vero has given Ronnie a write-up on how they refurbish donor computers. Ronnie and Eena-Mai Franz have not yet spoken with Ken White about BNL computer donations.

Ken Mohring plans a final review of the BREA website with Joanne Rula before the June meeting.

New Business: Richard Skelton initiated a lively discussion on future BREA-sponsored programs and events that would interest BREA members. It was generally agreed that we need ideas and people who are willing to make the arrangements.

Alyce Daly strongly urged that a suggestion sheet, numbered from one to ten, with one of the spaces saying "casino", be placed on each table at the June luncheon. Various other suggestions for bus trips were made – a Broadway show, the Chelsea Market, the NY Aquarium and Brighton Beach. Unfortunately, the last two BREA-sponsored trips, a lighthouse tour and a Metropolitan Opera performance of Dr. Atomic, were poorly attended. Christine Carter is receptive to midweek excursions, cosponsored by BERA, as long as enough people participate.

Dave Cox mentioned that Eric Forsyth is back from his latest adventure and that his presentations are always popular.

Myron Strongin is concerned that the new Federal health care legislation may initiate changes that affect retirees. He would like to see BREA stay on top of any developments and have someone like Denise DiMeglio address the members.

June meeting: Tues, June 8, 1pm, Berkner Rm A

July meeting: Tues, July 13, 1pm, Berkner Rm D

Meeting adjourned at 2:07pm

Minutes submitted by Louise Hanson