

BREA Minutes

Meeting Date and Place: Tuesday, June 14, 2011; Bldg. 400, Rm RSB 2

Attendees: David Cox, Alyce Daly, Ronnie Evans, Eena-Mai Franz, Louise Hanson, Ken Mohring, Martine O'Connor, Mona Rowe, and Richard Skelton.

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

The minutes of the May 10, 2011 meeting were accepted as presented.

Ken Mohring did not present a Treasurer's Report. He will do so next month, after the luncheon. He apologized for the lack of a call-in number for today's meeting. The Laboratory's reservation system is down. He will try to arrange for service through the end of the year, rather than relying on month-to-month reservations.

Old Business:

BREA newsletter: Mona Rowe is planning the August newsletter. It will focus on tomorrow's luncheon. Dave Cox would like to add a membership notice. Mona needs any contributions four weeks in advance.

Annual Luncheon (Wed. June 15, Bellport County Club): Martine O'Connor reported that 106 people plan to attend, including seven guests: Susan Davidson (BNL's new Assistant Lab Director for Finance and BSA's Chief Financial Officer) filling in for BNL's Director, Sam Aronson; Bob Lincoln; Chris Carter; Joanne Rula; Melissa Bittrolff; Gloria Bennett, filling in for Liz Seubert; and the Lab photographer. Ronnie Evans brought in the collage of photos from last year's event. Dave Cox and Ken Mohring will man the front table. Carol Kramer will be in charge of the fifty/fifty raffle tickets, to be sold 6 for \$5. Eena-Mai went over her remarks for tomorrow and discussed the seating of guests. The physical set-up will be the same as last year, with round tables seating ten.

SeniorNet: Ronnie Evans reported that SeniorNet held an open house last Friday in Yaphank, but no one signed up for classes. Another one will be held this coming Friday. The Yaphank location is the Don Weidman SeniorNet Learning Center, 1490 William Floyd Parkway, Suite 108, at the SE corner of Wm. Floyd south of the expressway. The phone is 631-427-3700, ext. 268. The next SNUG (SeniorNet User Group) meeting will be on June 21 at the Huntington Family Service League Building at 3:30pm. These events are open to the public. Ronnie also said that the SeniorNet people would like to attend a BREA meeting this fall. Dave Cox said that although progress seems to be very slow in Yaphank, SeniorNet has been very successful in Huntington.

E-mail/On-line communication between retirees and BNL: Eena-Mai Franz, Dave Cox and Arnie Peskin have met with Bob Lincoln, the interim head of Human Resources (HR). The meeting acquainted him with BREA: who we are and what we do. Arnie outlined the email issue and why it is of on-going concern to us. In addition, the BREA participants told him that the preservation of retirees' benefits is also a matter of great concern to us.

Mona Rowe reported that BNL's newly created retirees' email list started in April with the retirement of Gail Donahue. People will be added to the list as they retire (on the average, about 50 people retire each year). Joyce Tichler sent the BREA email list to Bonnie Miller (Human Resources and Occupational Medicine Division) to add to the BNL list, unfortunately, Bonnie could not read Joyce's file. Ultimately, Dave Cox sent a file which could be read. So far, the Lab does not appear to have activated their list. Louise Hanson suggested to Mona that once the Lab's list is activated, a notice be placed in the Bulletin asking retirees to send in their personal email addresses so they can be added to the list. (The Bulletin is mailed to all retirees).

Spring BREA tour of new BNL facilities (May 18): The tour was a great success. Thank you Ken Mohring! 19/20 people participated. He is planning a similar event for the fall, to include a visit to the Solar Farm and an NSLS II update. A "lesson learned" from the May tour is to anticipate and where possible, accommodate the needs of people with physical handicaps.

New Business:

A nominating committee for new BREA officers should be appointed in September. Dave Cox, the current Vice President, said he would only consider running for President if someone else takes over the membership duties which he now handles for BREA. Membership requires a rudimentary knowledge of Microsoft Access.

How can BREA attract more members to come to meetings? An "Open House" meeting with food and coffee was suggested for October, to be coordinated with the Lab's Health Fest. Louise Hanson will check with Michael Thorn on the Health Fest dates.

There will be no August BREA meeting.

Sept. 2011 meeting: Tues, Sept. 13, 1pm, Bldg. 400, Rm RSB 2

Meeting adjourned at 2:15pm

Minutes submitted by Louise Hanson