

BREA Minutes

From: Dave Cox (Secretary)

Date: Wednesday, December 9, 2009

In Attendance: Arnie Peskin, Ken Mohring, Dave Cox, Myron Strongin, Eena-Mai Franz, J. Tichler (via conference phone).

The meeting was called to order at 12.06 p.m. by the President, Arnie Peskin, who asked members to observe a moment of silence in memory of Florence O'Brien, who had died on December 7 from a heart attack following surgery. It was agreed that Joyce Tichler would send a letter of condolence to Flo's family on behalf of BREA, and that Ken Mohring would look into sending flowers or a donation to a charity of the family's choice.

The minutes of the November 12 meeting were approved, following a question by Eena-Mai Franz about the reference in the minutes to SeniorNet officials asking for assistance in arranging meetings with local government officials. Dave Cox explained that they were interested in meeting with Brookhaven Town officials about possible involvement with and support of the new East Yaphank center.

The Treasurer, Ken Mohring, reported that there had been no change in the financial statement from that of the previous month.

Arnie Peskin reported that the HR Director, Tony Bowman, had agreed that a copy of the latest BREA newsletter should be included in the package given to new retirees. However, for privacy reasons he was not willing to supply BREA with the BNL mailing list of retirees for recruitment purposes, but instead offered to have an appropriate brochure (prepared at BREA's expense) included with a forthcoming mailing of the Brookhaven Bulletin. Joyce Tichler volunteered to draft a suitable brochure for consideration by the Board, and Dave Cox said he would provide HR with copies of the most recent newsletter. Concerning the website, no changes had yet been made, and Ken Mohring and Dave Cox agreed to check with Joanne Rula after the meeting. It was agreed that the BREA material supplied to new retirees should also include a reference to the website.

Myron Strongin urged that BREA should take a proactive position concerning ongoing health care legislation and potential changes having an impact on retiree health benefits, and that further efforts be made to contact and coordinate with retiree organizations from other DOE laboratories. It was agreed that this course of action should be pursued.

Ken Mohring reported that a short article on SeniorNet had been published in a recent issue of the Brookhaven Bulletin. Arnie Peskin suggested that the SeniorNet organization was a natural "strategic partner" for BREA, and that others might be the Community Advisory Committee (which already includes a BREA representative) and the Brookhaven Women-in-Science

organization. Dave Cox pointed out that SeniorNet has the additional advantage of being a nationwide entity of potential interest to out-of-state members. It was agreed that the next issue Newsletter should seek feedback from members who have signed up for or made some enquiries about SeniorNet courses or facilities.

It was noted that the election process was running smoothly, and that the new officers would be announced at the forthcoming meeting on January 13.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12.55 pm following a motion made by Dave Cox and seconded by Ken Mohring.