

BREA Minutes

To: BREA Executive Board
CC: Committee Members
From: K. Mohring (meeting recorder 01/10/06)
Date: January 10, 2006

In attendance: Dave Cox, Y. Renee Flack, Jules Godel, Harriet Martin, Ken Mohring, Arnie Peskin, Sonja Santos, Myron Strongin and Joyce Tichler

M. Strongin chaired the meeting. The meeting was called to order at 12:05 pm. The minutes of the December 13, 2005 meeting were accepted with one typographical change.

Ken Mohring gave the treasurer's report. There are funds available of \$11,720.97. This consists of a certificate of deposit, a savings account and a checking account.

Dave Cox, the enrollment chair, reported that there are 445 listed members. To date, 320 members have paid dues for the current year. A dues reminder notice will be sent in the future.

Joyce Tichler initiated a discussion about health care plan options available from the Laboratory, and the cost of these plans when retirees are enrolled in Medicare Part B. A comparison of plans, costs and options needs to be performed. Currently, there is confusion about the options and related costs to retirees. Myron Strongin brought up the relationship of Medicare Part D to the overall cost to retirees. J. Tichler will speak with Elliott Auerbach about looking into the issues and, if he deems it appropriate, create a committee to assist him. Concerns include the benefits paid from Medicare Parts B and D, "premiums" paid by retirees, and the relationship of these benefits and retiree costs to health care expenses absorbed by the Laboratory. Because of ongoing changes in health care coverage and options, it was suggested that a standing committee be setup to monitor and review health care plan issues. Joyce Tichler reported that at our request, Denise Di Meglio is reviewing the AARP dental plan. Denise's advice is expected in the near future.

Myron Strongin talked about future speakers. Some ground rules were discussed including informing Human Resources about upcoming events and checking the BNL-wide calendar at the Conference Center. Possible topics for the future included: laws concerning assisted living, and alternative living options for the elderly. Speakers being considered are those from the private sector and from the Suffolk County Department of Aging. It was agreed that BREA will have a speaker every few months. On February 14th Eric Forsyth will speak. After that date, the next event will be in April. Possible speakers for April are Dr. Joan Kushner on family dynamics, or older people in the community (Harriet Martin to follow-up), or a speaker from the County Department of Aging (Renee Flack will follow-up).

During discussions of future speakers Harriet Martin agreed to provide additional information about natural occurring assisted living arrangements. Also, as part of other discussions Jules Godel suggested we consider being involved with other retiree groups in Suffolk County.

Renee Flack reported on her committee's ideas for the next social event. Discussions included the following luncheon sites: Villa Lombardi, Three Village Inn, Bavarian Inn, Bellport Country Club, and Martha Washington luncheon/cruise (Port Jefferson Harbor). After considering location, convenience, amenities and price, the Bellport Country Club and the Three Village Inn are the finalists. Harriet Martin will obtain additional information from the Three Village Inn, and a decision will be made at the next meeting.

The next meeting is scheduled for noon on Tuesday, February 14th. This is the same date as Eric Forsyth's talk. **Note: The President will send out an agenda with the meeting time and location of the February monthly meeting.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 1:25 pm