

BROOKHAVEN NATIONAL LABORATORY
RETIRED EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
BREA

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING

SEPTEMBER 10, 2008

ATTENDANCE: Elliot Auerbach, Graham Campbell, Dave Cox, Robert Marr, Harriet Martin, Paul Michael, Ken Mohring, Florence O'Brien, Arnie Peskin, Myron Strongin

GUESTS: Bill Hempfling, Mike McCann

NOTE: Joyce Tichler was on the conference phone.

Bill Hempfling and Mike McCann came to our meeting to explain the history and present state of the "Energy Workmen's Compensation Program", under the auspices of NIOSH, which reports to the Dept. Of Labor. A claim to NIOSH, as a result of nuclear radiation exposure, goes to the DOL, where a panel of experts decide if the claim should be compensated.

NIOSH does "dose reconstructive studies" which require information on every worker who has ever worked at a DOE lab for even one day! Some areas in the DOE labs are not exposed to radiation, and people who work in those areas are not monitored, nor are the construction and other people who are only at the lab temporarily. Even if this data existed for every employee we don't know about the data security that is in place at NIOSH, which expects to receive all of this medical data.

At present, CCNY's Queens College is in charge of physical exams of all who are now, or once did work at a DOE laboratory. BNL's representative in this matter is Jack Ellercamp, of the Dept. Of Safety and Health Services.

After this presentation and some discussion, Mike McCann left the meeting, and Bill told us that the HR Director search was near its end. He said would keep us informed, and then he too departed.

The meeting then continued with everyone silently reading the minutes and then Ken reporting on the Treasury...both documents were accepted without corrections or addenda.

Arnie assured us that our office move would happen, and until then we will not be getting rid of any of the office furnishings or equipment. He also expressed satisfaction with the progress of "BRISC", its Chair Robert Marr and the committee. We were reminded that the BERA Store is now selling tix to the opera "Dr.Atomic", and the bus transportation on Nov.8.

Flo O'Brien said that she had spoken to Renee Flack, and that Renee was interested in joining us at a future meeting on the conference phone. Arnie said he would make a note of her request.

Myron Strongin then spoke about LIPA getting involved with experimental energy sources and perhaps BREA could be a help to them. He also mentioned that Steve Schwartz thought we might sponsor a talk about energy sources for the future.

This meeting was then adjourned after Arnie reminded us that our next meeting will be on Wednesday, October 8, at noon, at Berkner Hall Rm. D, unless we hear otherwise.

Respectfully submitted by Harriet Martin