

BREA Minutes

From: Dave Cox (Secretary)

Date: Wednesday, January 13, 2010

In Attendance: Arnie Peskin, Dave Cox, Eena-Mai Franz, Sonja Santos, Ronnie Evans, Martine O'Connor, Alyce Daly, J. Tichler (via conference phone).

The meeting was called to order at 12.02 p.m. by the President.

The minutes of the December 9 meeting were approved.

Arnie Peskin stated that it had been a privilege to serve as BREA President for the past two years, citing his chief accomplishment as helping to hold the line on retiree health benefits, but regretting the attrition in membership due to the death of several members together with the inability to attract new blood. He announced that BSA had recently signed a five-year extension to their contract with DOE with no changes of major significance to BREA. He mentioned that his efforts to improve e-mail access to the lab for retirees was still a work in progress, and that he had met with Tom Schlagel of IT to address the issue. He then called upon the Secretary to announce the results of the recent elections of new officers.

Dave Cox reported that about 25% of BREA's approximately 300 members had returned ballots, all in favor of the proposed slate of officers, as follows: President - Eena-Mai Franz; Vice President - Dave Cox; Treasurer - Ken Mohring; Secretary - Sonja Santos. Arnie Peskin congratulated the new officers, and turned over the proceedings to Eena-Mai Franz.

Dave Cox proposed a vote of thanks to Arnie Peskin for his leadership and hard work on behalf of BREA during the past two years, which was enthusiastically endorsed!

As incoming President, Eena-Mai Franz made some brief remarks, stating that it would be very difficult for her to fill Arnie's shoes, and that she would need a lot of help from the other officers.

In response to a question about e-mail access to the lab, Arnie mentioned that it was particularly an issue for new retirees, who were more likely to want to retain easy access to the lab system. Eena-Mai said that she would follow up with IT and Mona Rowe, who had also been present at the earlier meeting with Tom Schlagel.

Ronnie Evans reported that she had visited the new Brookhaven Town Clerk, Pat Eddington, concerning a future meeting with SeniorNet officials. In response to a question by Arnie Peskin, Ronnie said she would consider representing BREA on the Town Senior Advisory Committee, which is currently being reorganized.

There was a discussion about the annual BREA luncheon. Alyce Daly and Martine O'Connor volunteered to be co-chairs, which was unanimously accepted by all present. June 9 was chosen as the tentative date, a week later than in past years, but less likely to conflict with college graduation ceremonies.

Joyce Tichler reported that she had developed a preliminary draft of a tri-fold brochure designed to be mailed with an issue of the lab Bulletin at some later date, and asked for input from other members. Dave Cox reported that Joanne Rula had made some progress on the BREA web-page, and also that the next newsletter was taking shape.

Prompted by an e-mail from Elliot Auerbach requesting that BREA should consider holding monthly meetings on Tuesdays instead Wednesdays, it was agreed that Dave Cox would check whether Tuesday meetings starting at 1 pm rather than 12 noon might be a possible compromise.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 12.57 pm.