

BREA Zoom Meeting Minutes 07/12/2022

Minutes recorded by L. Miller

Contact Information:

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA

BNL Bldg. 400A

BERA Recreation/ Attention BREA Meeting

Upton, NY 11973

Present: A. Moodenbaugh, T. Arno, G. Cisco, A. J. Feldman, L. Fishbone, V. Ghosh, M. Israel, L. Kouchinsky, L. Miller, M. Rowe, D. Sievers, S. Shapiro, B. Siskind, G. Williams

Visitors: Jonathan Corbin and Laura Buscemi, Worker Health Program

Officers 2022-2024: President: Arnold Moodenbaugh, Vice President: Vinita Ghosh, Secretary: Laura Miller, Treasurer: Les Fishbone, Membership Chair: Beth Lin, Newsletter Editor: Mona Rowe

1. **Call to Order. Arnie Moodenbaugh**

Meeting called to order: 1:09 pm

2. **Presentation.**

Jonathan Corbin (Outreach & Clinical Coordinator) and Laura Buscemi-Robles (Outreach Coordinator) discuss the Worker Health Protection Program (WHPP).

Laura will be reaching out to retirees about this program.

Jonathan gave a presentation on the Worker Health Protection Program (WHPP).

Action: Arnie will contact C. Carter to have this presentation posted on BREA's website.

Q from D. Sievers: Example - two coworkers developed pancreatic cancer and died. Do the spouses receive compensation if it is shown that their cancers were workplace induced? Yes. Jonathan will send information to Arnie about spousal benefits and Arnie will distribute.

Q from L. Fishbone: Map shown didn't include any coverage of state of WA (Hanford for example). Why not?

A: This program works at 15 DOE facilities, other programs cover other facilities, including Hanford. If a person moves from BNL to WA, that employee would go through the National Supplemental Screening Program instead of this program. Les had an exam a few years ago. He will be contacted for another exam, but he can also call Jonathan to see when he becomes eligible again.

Q from A. J. Feldman: I worked at Princeton Plasma Physics Lab before moving to BNL and also at Three Mile Island. Are these covered?

A.: Yes, but not shown on map.

Q from M. Rowe: Did any results from BNL program stand out?

A.: Beryllium sensitization rate at BNL is high at more than 7%. G. Williams and Mona mentioned the beryllium windows for accelerators, such as at NSLS and NSLS-II as well as beryllium parts that were being milled at machine shops. Otherwise, BNL's rates seem to be lower.

General phone number: 888-241-1199, email: info@worker-health.org and/or Jonathan.Corbin@qu.cuny.edu 718-670-4228.

Laura Buscemi will be calling retirees from her cell phone: 631-807-0457.

Action: Jonathan will add Laura's contact information to his presentation.

Action: Jonathan may include summaries on how many cases had no significant findings.

3. **Minutes of June Meeting. Laura Miller**

Added April and May CAC reports from Mark Israel to the June minutes.

Question for Beth: Vinita and I have different numbers for last month's current paid members: I'm sure mine (216) is not correct and Vinita's (269) is correct, but please confirm. Beth confirmed that 269 is the correct number for the June paid members.

Action: Laura will correct the June minutes to show the number of paid members is 269.

Action: Les will send Laura any corrections he has to the June minutes.

Motion to approve: D. Sievers, seconded by Les Fishbone. Approved unanimously.

4. **Membership Report. Beth Yu Lin.**

Beth is not participating today. No report.

5. **CAC Meeting Report. Mark Israel.**

No CAC meeting until September. Nothing to report this month.

6. **Newsletter. Mona Rowe**

The upcoming newsletter will include Medicare updates. BNL is adding some benefits regarding eye care. Newsletter will include dates for Medicare and a reminder to retirees about the requirement to **always use SelectQuote**. She will emphasize that there are variations among the plans. Look at each plan to see which plans fits you best.

We need to be in the 'eyes' of HR to remind them that we're around and we pay attention. For instance: D. DiMeglio told Mona there is no guarantee of spousal coverage each year. This was a surprise to most of us.

Action: Gretchen, Arnie, interested others will talk to HR about our concerns.

7. **Treasurer's Report. Les Fishbone.**

Les presented a detailed Treasurer's Report as a screen share within Zoom. The grand total for the checking and savings accounts and the three certificates of deposit (CD) is \$25850.79. G. Williams motioned to accept Treasurer's Report, D. Sievers seconded, motion passed unanimously.

8. **Status of BNL.**

The BNL BERA webpages contain the most up to date information. On-site BREA meetings will be reconsidered as BNL returns to normal operation. Covid cases are up, so BNL's pool is closed to retirees for now. Masks are required again. Unsure about gym and workout room. Retirees should always check BNL website for the latest information regarding current protocol when going onsite.

9. **Speakers for BREA Zoom meetings.**

Two potential speakers have agreed, in principle, to give presentations. We will notify members with speakers and topics when schedules are confirmed.

Action: Arnie will look at previous minutes to see about setting up speakers for the fall.

10. **Annual Luncheon.**

No progress. Any planning for a BREA luncheon (or any other in-person event) will depend on BNL COVID policies. Note that we would probably have a lower turnout than the minimum attendances set by recent luncheon locations. Should we begin some pre-planning to decide on the scope of a lunch event? Have an outdoor picnic instead?

11. **New Business**

Mona got an email about a class action lawsuit because of a data breach with the Office of Personal Management. It seems to have gone to people who had a security clearance. Les thought it meant that the recipient of the email could get \$700 if that person accepted the terms, but the judge hasn't accepted it yet. There is a form to be filled out.

Arnie sent in the information to get \$30 from Zoom but he hasn't heard anything yet.

Motion to adjourn made by Don Sievers, seconded by Arnie, passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 2:24 pm.

There is no meeting in August. The next BREA meeting will be held September 13th via Zoom.