

BREA Zoom Meeting Minutes 02/14/2024

Minutes recorded by Laura Miller

Contact Information:

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA

BNL Bldg. 400A

BERA Recreation/ Attention BREA Meeting

Upton, NY 11973

Present: A. Moodenbaugh, L. Buscemi-Robles, C. Conrad, D. Cox, A. Feldman, L. Fishbone, R. Hackenburg, L. Hanson, M. Israel, J. Lemley, B. Lin, T. Martin, L. Miller, S. Musolino, M. Rowe, S. Shapiro, D. Sievers, B. Siskind, L. Fishbone, G. Williams

Officers 2024-2026: President: Arnold Moodenbaugh, Vice President: Andy Feldman, Secretary: Laura Miller, Treasurer: Louise Hanson,

Membership Chair: Beth Lin, Newsletter Editor: Mona Rowe

1. Call to Order, Arnie Moodenbaugh at 1:04 pm
2. Minutes of January meeting. Laura Miller
 - a. Action item from January meeting: December minutes are not approved until full board is in attendance. **CORRECTION:** the 2023 BREA Board will approve the December minutes; the 2024-2025 BREA Board will approve minutes beginning with the January 2024 minutes.
 - i. **Action:** Laura will resend the December minutes to the 2023 BREA Board.
 - ii. January minutes
 1. Minutes discussion: members of the community-at-large have asked that the minutes be discussed and approved before the start of the monthly meetings.
 - a. Some retirees would like to see the draft or final minutes.
 - b. The minutes are sent out via BNL BERA services. Due to staffing and funding issues, they have asked us to limit our use of their services.
 - c. Decision: continue as usual: draft minutes will go to the BREA Board for review.
 - d. **Action:** Beginning with the March meeting, the Board will start meeting at 12:45, with the monthly meeting beginning at the standard time of 1:00 pm
 - e. M. Rowe moved to approve the December minutes, A. Feldman seconded, minutes were approved with no opposition.
 - iii. **Action:** A. Feldman will send the BREA board his outlook email address.

3. Membership Report. Beth Yu Lin

- a. Beth described her responsibilities as the Membership Chair.
- b. The number of current paid members is 218, the number of current members with emails is 201. This month she has received 3 checks for dues payments. She will send them to Les.
- c. Motion to approve by L. Miller, seconded by M. Israel, passed with no opposition.
- d. S. Shapiro brought up the idea of simplifying dues. This will be discussed at the end of today's meeting.

4. Treasurer Report. Louise Hanson. *Les Fishbone is handling Treasurer duties until Louise returns from vacation*

- a. Les presented details as a screen share within Zoom. As is generally the case, this report is based on the amounts in the statement from TFCU for the previous month. The grand total for the checking and savings accounts and the three certificates of deposit (CD) is \$26,373.15.
- b. One of the CDs was renewed and has a new maturity date of 2/4/2025.
- c. In January, Arnie spent \$159.90 for annual ZOOM subscription.
- d. Motion to accept made by A. Feldman, seconded by M. Israel, passed with no opposition.

a. **Action:** L. Hanson will send B. Lin her address for the membership checks, who will begin sending them directly to Louise once Louise is on the signature list for the accounts.

b. **Action:** Need to get Louise approved on the account.

5. BREa contributions. Steve Shapiro will update on Tesla Center. BNL counsel indicated that acknowledgement to BREa by non-profit is allowed.

- a. There is a lot going on in stabilizing the Tesla building that was damaged. The original idea to give \$10k for a window is pushed into the future. Tesla is looking for donations. We could give a \$1k donation or could donate more and have the donation acknowledged via inscribed bricks. Steve reached out for more information but hasn't heard from his contact prior to today's meeting. Program has been extended. We can use the BNL logo. Arnie heard from the Lab. As long as we say it's from our BREa organization, it's fine.

b. **Action:** A. Moodenbaugh volunteered to use his credit card.

c. **Action:** A. Feldman said if someone will send him the format, he has graphic software and can convert to the format Tesla accepts.

d. **Action:** Arnie will send Andy the logo. It is also located on BNL's homepage.

- e. **Action:** M. Rowe volunteered to be part of subcommittee to work on the format for brick. Arnie, Andy and L. Fishbone will participate and will report back at the next meeting.

6. Newsletter. Mona Rowe

- a. For the March-April newsletter, Mona will do a feature on Adam Merone, who is Chris Carter's replacement. In addition, she has reader comments on miscellaneous items at the lab that she will include.

7. Worker Health Protection Program (WHPP) discussion. Laura Buscemi-Robles and Tiffany Martin

- a. WHPP provides physical evaluations to DOE retirees who meet certain criteria. This can lead to financial settlements to employees and retirees for DOE job related health problems.
- a. Tiffany Martin is the Outreach Coordinator of WHPP, Laura Buscemi-Robles is the local coordinator of WHPP. They are still holding free medical screenings. Screenings are still held at Dr. Wajdy Hailoo's office in Ronkonkoma. They are looking to expand their lung cancer screening program. Candidates must be able to undergo treatment if any lung cancer is found. They expect this program to be up and running in late spring 2024.
- b. For more information: Website: <http://www.worker-health.org/> telephone: 888-241-1199; email: info@worker-health.org. Laura's phone: 631-807-0457 and Buscemi.robles@gmail.com. The scheduling coordinator: Exley Reed at 718-670-4175, exley.reed@qc.cuny.edu. They store all medical records.
 - i. The physical exams are given every 3 years: additional testing: beryllium, audio testing, general physical component (Quest bloodwork)
 - ii. Patients are given a medical records release form when they sign up and records will be forwarded to names / places patient provides.
 - iii. **Action:** Arnie will send out WHPP information with next month's meeting notice.
 - iv. **Action:** Arnie will try to get it added to BREA's website.
 - v. **Action:** Laura Buscemi-Robles will send Arnie the contact information reminder one week before the March meeting.
 - vi. They can handle people who are located out of state. If interested, call the 888 number to get the information about the closest one to them.
 - vii. BREA newsletter: Tiffany asked if they could provide information in our newsletter.
 - viii. **Action:** Mona will email newsletters in which the WHPP program was discussed.

8. Possible talks:

- a. It doesn't have to be something related to Lab.

- b. Musolino agreed to give a talk.
 - c. Possibility of discussion/interaction meeting with new lab director.
 - d. Fireside chats: Usually at 5:00 pm on the second Tuesday of each month.
 - e. **Action:** send Arnie any suggestions and he will present them at the next meeting.
9. Potential informal lunch on Long Island for BREa members. A. Moodenbaugh.
- a. BNL now offers lunch at Berkner. Masking requirement has been cancelled.
 - b. Arnie thinks we will have a tough time getting the minimum needed to get a reserved room, such as the Bellport Yacht Club. We might instead have more informal lunches.
 - c. We used to provide coffee and cookies at the monthly meeting when they were held at the lab. Could start this again to help bring in more attendees.
 - d. We used to have luncheons that were subsidized by our dues.
10. New Business
- a. March meeting will not be a hybrid. Maybe in April.
 - i. **Action:** Arnie will discuss with Adam because Adam must set it up.
 - b. Mark heard Ed McFadden, in Florida, passed away
 - c. Musolino heard that Karl Distenfeldt (sp) passed away.
 - d. Dues: a suggestion is to give all BNL retirees membership by default, so there is no need for dues, and have occasional requests for funds.
 - i. Discussed, but no conclusion
 - e. Upcoming CAC meetings:
 - i. March 14, April 11, May 9
 - f. Don Sievers provided information about the “You Earned It You Keep It Act” regarding the removal of federal taxes on social security. He encourages us to write to our congress person or senator to express support for this proposed act.

Motion to adjourn by D. Sievers, seconded by M. Israel, approved with no opposition.
Meeting adjourned at 2:14 pm.

Next meeting: March 12 at 1:00 pm via Zoom.

NOTE: BREa Board members will log on at 12:45 for discussion/approval of prior meeting minutes.