

DRAFT Minutes BREA Meeting
November 12, 2024 at 1:00 pm
Via Zoom

Minutes recorded by Laura Miller

Contact Information:

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA

BNL Bldg. 400A

BERA Recreation/ Attention BREA Meeting

Upton, NY 11973

Present: Arnie Moodenbaugh, Gretchen Cisco, Carol Davis, Betty Elder, Andy Feldman, Les Fishbone, Louise Hanson, Mark Israel, Jim Lemley, Laura Miller, Mona Rowe, Don Sievers, Barry Siskind, Ed Sperry, Gwyn Williams

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

1. Call to Order. Arnie Moodenbaugh
Meeting called to order at 1:01 pm
2. Minutes of the October meeting. Laura Miller.
CAC meeting in September had a discussion of the late notification of the tritium leak. Andy motioned to accept minutes as written, seconded by Arnie. Approved with no objections.
UPDATE: the tritium leak took place in 911, not 902. Laura will correct the minutes before sending them to be posted.
3. Treasurer's Report. Louise Hanson.
Louise provided an update on the current status of the funds and the CDs in BREA's account. Arnie talked about ways to simplify the CD renewal process.
Andy motioned to accept the report, Mark seconded and there were no objections.
Action: Arnie and Louise will discuss the cd renewal off-line.
4. Membership Report. Betty Elder.
204 current members/187 have email, number of lapsed members 432, two have paid. Membership is dropping, maybe due to Covid, the organization of the lab and the lack of a sense of connection with fellow employees.
Mark motioned to approve the membership report, Don seconded, approved by hand vote.
Action: Betty will try to find out where the 432 number comes from.
5. Newsletter. Mona Rowe. Plans for the Jan./Feb. 2025 Newsletter.
Jan-Feb newsletter: Science and User Support Facility – Discovery Park: Tom Daniels is Associate Director for Facility and Operations, which is supposed to be finished with construction this year. Steve Canella is the Project Engineer and Mona may reach out to him.

6. CAC Report. Mark Israel

Mark mentioned discussions via email asking for confirmation of the location of the tritium leak. He confirmed that it happened in Bldg. 911.

Report of CAC's October 10th meeting:

Arnie has been officially listed as an alternate for BREA. Mark asked if anyone has spoken to Eena Mai Franz because he has had no luck trying to reach her. (She has been our designated alternate).

Mark recommends that those interested visit the CAC website to see the detailed presentations from this meeting as well as previous meetings. It can be found on the BNL website under "Community."

Joanne Hewett, Laboratory Director, gave the first presentation, which was of the 2025 Annual Lab Plan. She outlined the Lab's four strategic initiatives: (1) Building blocks of the universe; (2) Leading in discovery with light enabled science; (3) Developing next generation information science and technologies; and (4) Addressing environmental and societal challenges.

Jason Remien, Manager, Environmental Protection Division provided a presentation of Chapters 1 through 3 of the Laboratory's 2023 Site Environmental Report. Chapters 4 through 9 will be covered at the November CAC meeting. Chapter 1 is the Introduction; Chapter 2 covers the Environmental Management System; and Chapter 3 addresses Compliance Status. The details are available in the handouts available on the CAC website.

Sharon Kohler, Associate Laboratory Director for Environment, Safety, and Health presented the Common Cause Analysis results of the tritium leak. It was determined that additional evaluation was warranted, and seven previous events were included in the common cause analysis, and all were similar in nature to the recent January 2024. The team identified several common causes: End of life failures; Defective or failed parts; and maintenance less than adequate. She spoke about the mitigating actions that have been completed or are planned. Short and long term recommendations were identified. The final report will be shared with the CAC.

6. BREA contributions. Tesla Foundation.

Arnie came up with something to put on one of the tiles of bricks TESLA puts on its website. Bricks are no longer on the website.

Les mentioned that we have approximately \$27k to spend. Maybe we can do more in the way of contributions to local organizations.

Gretchen mentioned the possibility of setting up an annual BREA scholarship funded by BREA.

Action: Arnie will find out if Tesla still planning to have bricks as a way to generate support. He will talk to Steve Shapiro and report at the next meeting.

Action: Arnie will try to contact Mark Alessi also to talk to him about Tesla's bricks.

Action: BREA members should think about possible types of donations that are local and send ideas to Arnie for discussion at the next meeting.

Action: Les will contact someone at BNL or Battelle to see if they provide any matching donations.

7. Future Talks/Presentations

Action: Arnie will reach out to Joanne Hewett

8. New Business

New retirees who will be turning 65 should go to Social Security and get a Medicare ID number. They should then contact SelectQuoteSenior using the number on the BNL website or that was listed in the recent BREA newsletter to get information. Also call HR (Melissa Schuchman).

Laura made a motion to adjourn the meeting, Louise seconded, motion passed.

The next BREA meeting is scheduled for December 10 at 1:00 pm. It will take place via Zoom.