

DRAFT Minutes BREA Meeting
January 14, 2025 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, David Cox, Betty Elder, Andy Feldman, Les Fishbone, Aruk Ghosh, Vinita Ghosh, Louise Hanson, Mark Israel, Jim Lemley, Bill Leonhardt, Yousef Makdisi, Laura Miller, Mona Rowe, Steve Schwartz, Stephen Shapiro, Don Sievers, Barry Siskind, Ed Sperry, Gwyn Williams

Guest: Laura Buscemi (631-807-0457 buscemi.robles@gmail.com) Dr. Hailoo will describe additions to the screenings and coverages to the WHPP. He would like to speak, possibly even at next month's meeting. If we pick a month and tell Laura, she will set it up.

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

12:45 Board Meeting:

Arnie is going to renew the Zoom license (\$160).

Andy moved to approve the December revised minutes, seconded by Louise, Laura recused herself, passed unanimously.

Louise shared the January Treasurer's Report.

1. Call to Order. Arnie Moodenbaugh
 - a. Meeting called to order at 1:02.
2. Minutes of the December meeting. Laura Miller.
 - a. Laura said Mark's notes from the November Community Advisory Council (CAC) will be included in these minutes.
 - b. **Action Item:** Laura will send the December minutes to be posted on BREA's website.
3. Treasurer's Report. Louise Hanson.
 - a. Louise provided an update on the account activities for December and the CDs in BREA's account. Motion to approve made by Andy Feldman, seconded by Les Fishbone, approved unanimously.
4. Membership Report. Betty Elder.
 - a. Number of current members: 186. Number of current members who have email: 172. Number of members in arrears: 451. Number of members who sent dues since the last meeting: 6.
 - b. Discussion took place regarding number of people attending and how to have an in-

person and on-line meeting

- c. Free one-year membership to BREAs: should include current employees, those who haven't retired.
- d. **Action Item:** Talk to Betty off-line about the subcommittee meeting.

- 5. Newsletter. Mona Rowe. The Jan/Feb. newsletter; plans for the Mar/Apr. newsletter.
 - a. The January/February newsletter has gone out. The March/April issue will have top 10 discoveries from last year, an update of the Science User Support Center, and also what we have been discussing at today's BREA meeting.
- 6. Community Advisory Council CAC Meeting Notes, November 14, 2024. Mark Israel.
 - a. Jason Remien continued presenting Chapters 4 through 9 of the 2023 Site Environmental Report which had not been covered at the October 10th CAC Meeting. The respective subject areas were as follows:
 - Chapter 4: Air Quality
 - Chapter 5: Water Quality
 - Chapter 6: Natural and Cultural Resources
 - Chapter 7: Groundwater Protection
 - Chapter 8: Radiological Dose Assessment, and
 - Chapter 9: Quality AssuranceJason's discussion included a great deal of detail and analysis for each of these subject areas. Mark recommends that those interested visit the CAC website to see the detailed presentations from this meeting. It can be found on BNL's home page under "Community."
 - b. Bill Dorsch, Manager of the Groundwater Protection Group, presented the Annual Groundwater Update, which is Volume 2 of the Laboratory's Site Environmental Report. His presentation covered progress updates and milestones achieved in the cleanup program, and recent work to address the CERCLA 5-year Review recommendations; Radiological Plume Comparisons; Operable Unit PFAS and 1,4-Dioxane Time Critical Removal Actions (TCRA) Status; Recent Groundwater Characterization; and PFAS/1,4-Dioxine Compliance Plan for Currently Operating Groundwater Remediation Systems. Here, too, a great amount of statistical measurement detail and analysis were presented that is available on the BNL CAC website for those who are interested.
 - c. The last part of the CAC Meeting was conducted by David Manning, Director of Stakeholder and Community Relations. We discussed results of a survey taken of the CAC membership to determine satisfaction and/or preferences with respect to our meeting length (which has been approximately 2 ½ hours), format (zoom, in person, or hybrid), and the content mix, such as Environmental presentations, Scientific presentations, and occasional facility tours.
 - d. The next CAC meeting will take place in March 2025.
- 7. BREAs contributions. Members asked to suggest additional charities to receive BREAs contributions. Update Tesla Foundation approved contribution.

- a. Arnie talked to the representative of Tesla Science Center. A gift of \$1000 should be partly allotted to an 8x8 brick. His suggestion so far is something simple, such as Gift from BREA (Brookhaven Retired Employees Association). Could put logo on it if we want the bigger brick: \$350 for brick, \$650 donation). Logo might not come out clearly.
 - i. Decision: “Brookhaven Lab Retired Employees”.
 - b. Donation to an LA organization toward the fires? Les shared a screen regarding “Caltech and JPL Disaster Relief Fund”. Les suggests \$1000. Les made motion, Don Sievers seconded. Passed without objection but discussion continued.
 - c. Defer this donation? Louise pointed out that the situation in Ukraine is personal to some and there are others who have personal organizations they feel strongly about. Gwyn Williams suggested we focus more on local to Long Island situations.
 - d. Les withdrew this motion.
 - e. **Action:** Les will send the information about this to include in discussion at next month’s meeting.
 - f. **Action:** Arnie will include this as an agenda item at the next meeting.
8. Future Talks/Presentations
- a. We would like someone to present an update of the new building, such as David Manning. Don Sievers could talk to the Project Manager (Peggy Caradonna) and/or the lead engineer of Discovery Park. Also, Mona can address these issues in the form of a ‘letter to the editor’ from BREA. This could happen in the March/April issue.
 - b. **Action:** Arnie will contact Laura Buscemi-Robles to schedule a speaker for the WHPP program and David Manning to give an update on Discovery Park. For more detailed information, he will try to get Peggy or the lead engineer.
9. New business.
- a. A subgroup met with HR to get an increase in our BSA distribution to retirees. A letter was sent, but there has not been a response.
 - b. Benefits: there was a big rise in the cost of the WellCare pharmaceutical benefit, depending on where a person lives. Because of the differences people have, it may be difficult to get much information.

A motion was made by Andy to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Laura. The motion passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 2:21 pm.

The next meeting will be held February 11, 2025, via Zoom.