

**Minutes BREA Meeting
June 10, 2025 at 1:00 pm
Via Zoom**

Minutes recorded by Laura Miller

Contact Information:

Brookhaven Retired Employees Association BREA

BNL Bldg. 400A

BREA Recreation/ Attention BREB Meeting

Upton, NY 11973

Present: Arnie Moodenbaugh, Laura Buscemi-Robles, Betty Elder, Andy Feldman, Les Fishbone, Bob (Gordie) Howe, Mark Israel, Jim Lemley, Sean McCorkle, Yousef Makdisi, Laura Miller, Hue-anh Pham, Mona Rowe, Steve Shapiro, Don Sievers, Barry Siskind, 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 1:03 pm.
2. Minutes of the May meeting. Laura Miller. Officers meet at 12:45 to discuss and vote on approval of the May meeting minutes.
May minutes were reviewed and approved by 3 with one abstention.
Action: Laura will have the May minutes posted on BREB's website.
3. Treasurer's Report. Louise Hanson.
Louise was unable to attend. Her report was read by Arnie.
Donation checks from Tesla had not been cashed when Louise gave her report to Arnie.
Motion made to accept the Treasurer's report by Andy, seconded by Gwyn. Passed unanimously.
Action: Steve Shapiro will look into the checks that were sent to Tesla and report back at the next meeting.
4. Membership Report. Betty Elder.
Betty sent the report prior to the meeting to the BREB Board. There have been no changes since the May meeting. No new members. Current membership: 199. Current membership with email: 182. Those with a mailing address: 444.
Motion to accept by Mark, seconded by Don. Passed unanimously
5. Newsletter. Mona Rowe
The next issue will feature an article about the Sunrise Fire of 1995. From Betty, Mona got contact information for Chuck LaSalla and others. Mona got John Searing's phone number

to Mona from Don Sievers. After discussion about the 1958 Life Magazine article on Brookhaven, which Steve Musolino and Steve Shapiro have read, Mona said she might do a piece on it to explore how scientists and science were mischaracterized back then – and still are today. She'll contact Bob Crease for his thoughts. The Fermilab muon g-2 experiment released final results, which were reported in the New York Times. Many remembered when the magnet left the site and traveled to Fermilab. The journey generated good visuals, and it might be worth doing an article about it.

Action: Link to the Life Magazine article from 1958: https://books.google.com/books?id=aVMEAAAAMBAJ&printsec=frontcover&source=gs_ge_summary_r&cad=0#v=onepage&q&f=false

5. Discussion of new reporting requirements for all BERA organizations.

BREA is obligated to submit a Club Annual Plan by July 1, including a budget. A first draft, without a budget, is attached. We are in a good position because activities are documented on the BREA webpage and our funds are well monitored. Louise and Arnie will work up a budget with suggestions welcome from all members. There are requirements for quarterly reports consisting of lists of activities, bank statements, and details of income and disbursement of funds. These will be due starting approximately Aug. 1.

Action: Arnie will send something to Adam within the next two weeks.

6. BREA election of officers this fall.

Consider the future of BREA and your participation.

Action: We will have a discussion at the July meeting, with the intention of identifying a slate of candidates during September before the October meeting.

7. Recruitment of retiring employees to BREA.

Over the last few years, new memberships in BREA have declined. Part of the issue may be that retiring employees no longer receive from HR a paper package that once included an invitation to join. BERA puts out a monthly Club Activities email to employees. Adam Merone says that it features one club each month. He would be willing to feature BREA occasionally to improve awareness. Other ideas welcomed.

Betty heard from Melissa in HR about getting the list of upcoming retirees so that we can contact them. Try to capture names of people with older service anniversaries and send them an email.

Action: Find out what the formula (if any) is for an employee who is still employed to be able to join BREA.

8. Future Talks/Presentations

Arnie asked for suggestions.

The Laboratory Director, JoAnne Hewett, has been mentioned several times.

9. New business.

Steve Shapiro is cleaning out his files/office and found a 75-page transcription about the Pegram

Lectures, the last of which was 10 years ago. Steve is planning to talk to Bob Crease about any of his articles that Bob might be interested in and see what he recommends.

Adam told Arnie that the fall would be the best time to plan an in-person meeting at BNL.

2:15 pm. The meeting was adjourned.

The next meeting will be held July 8, 2025 via Zoom.

Club Annual Plan (DRAFT 1)

Annual Plan

Club Name: Brookhaven Retired Employees Association (BREA)

Submitted By: Arnold Moodenbaugh (President)

Date: June 30, 2025

Goals for the Year

According to the Bylaws., BREA intends to “further retiree interests and benefits, to build closer community ties between Brookhaven National Laboratory (hereinafter referred to as BNL) and its neighbors, to publish a newsletter providing communication with retired employees, and to encourage activities for social interaction within the retirement community. “

Since the onset of Covid19, enrollment by BNL retirees has declined. This may be due in part to a lack of awareness of the BREA. We have participated in BERA outreach events for employees. We will look for additional opportunities to inform more retiring employees about BREA.

We have not had a luncheon (previously annual) and only one local in-person meeting since the advent of Covid. Estimated attendance at a luncheon appears too small to engage our previous location, so a more informal get together might be the goal.

BREA will provide updated information annually about health coverage to members prior to BNL’s annual open enrollments. BREA will promote member participation in volunteer opportunities. An example has been for the annual Science Bowl. BREA will communicate BNL updates and achievements to members via meetings and the newsletters.

BREA has representation and regularly participates in the BNL Community Advisory Council. This commitment will continue. Our representative updates members at monthly BREA meetings. BREA has assets that allow contributions to various charitable organizations. BREA has contributed to BNL’s annual United Fund appeal and, depending on member sentiment, will do so again.

Planned Activities

Monthly meetings take place on the second Tuesday of each month at 1:00 PM Eastern time. There is no meeting in August. Meetings are held regularly on Zoom (since the onset of Covid19). This better serves members who have moved from Long Island. It is intended to have one or two meetings in the year to originate at BNL. These occasions require BNL staff facilitation for room assignment and web access (by BREA coordinator Adam Merone). Past meeting minutes with attendee lists are posted on the BREA webpage. Meetings include updates on BNL activities and policies, discussions of retiree health programs and benefits, and occasionally include guest speakers on science topics, health issues, or retirement experiences.

BREA publishes a newsletter six times yearly (bimonthly). The BREA newsletter is printed at and mailed from

BNL to retirees requesting a hard copy. Other BREa members (and all members of the BNL community) can view current and back issues, which are posted on the BNL BREa web page. Topics covered include BNL science topics, human interest articles on retiree experiences, and an annual discussion of retiree health coverage, including BSA health benefits.

Proposed Budget

(Provide an estimated budget for the year, including funding needs)
BREa budget to be developed.