

BREA Meeting Minutes
January 13, 2026 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 Tony Arno, Ronnie Evans, Betty Elder, Andy Feldman, Les Fishbone, Louise Hanson, Mark Israel, Bill Leonhardt, Laura Miller, Arnie Moodenbaugh, Steve Musolino, Mona Rowe, Steve Shapiro, Cindy Salwen, Barry Siskind, Jim Lemley, Martin Van Lith

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

At the pre-meeting, the BREA Board reviewed and approved the December 9, 2025 minutes. Laura will send them to be posted.

BREA President Arnie Moodenbaugh called the meeting called to order at 1:07 pm.

1. Treasurer's Report. Louise Hanson.
 - a. Louise shared the January Treasurer's Report. Interest was credited to the Savings and Checking Accounts. The 12-month CD came due in December and was rolled over for another twelve months. Dues from seven BREA members was deposited into the checking account. The two donations to food banks have been cashed.
 - b. Mark made a motion to approve, Les seconded it. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Membership Report. Betty Elder.
 - a. One new member. Total current members: 181, those with email: 168; members in arrears 465; dues received since last meeting: 1.
 - b. Board of Trustees election: Betty received one more ballot after the December meeting, but it was sent/received after the deadline. New officers are the same as the old ones – no change. The next election will be held in November 2027.

3. Community Advisory Council. Mark Israel.
 - a. There will be a special CAC meeting on Jan. 22 concerning BNL's environmental goals and the reasons that we won't be meeting many of them. Mark will report on this meeting at our February meeting.
 - b. *Action:* Mark will check to see if he has John Hill's CAC presentation since it isn't posted on the CAC site yet. If he does, he will send it.
 - c. *Action:* Arnie will reach out to John Hill's assistant to find time on his schedule to have him speak at an upcoming BREA meeting.
4. Current newsletter, Mona Rowe
 - a. Pages 2-3 will be devoted to RHIC's closure. The Lab will publish a wrap-up of RHIC's historical science in February.
 - b. The Electron Ion Collider (EIC) will replace RHIC in the same location. Currently funding for the project looks good.
5. Recruitment of retiring employees to join BREA. Discuss changes in dues scheme to improve enrollment. Other initiatives.
 - a. No progress.
 - b. *Action:* Arnie will give an update at the February meeting.
6. BNL requests participation by BNL community members in management of the Long Island DOE Science Bowl competition in late Jan. Middle school and high school competitions need volunteers (some with non-scientific backgrounds, some with science knowledge) for oversight. (info from AHorn@bnl.gov). Breakfast and lunch are included. It will take place Jan. 28-29, 2026.
 - a. Arnie and Les have both volunteered in the past and both have volunteered again. They need all kinds of volunteers, a scientific background is not necessary.
7. New business.
 - a. Moving: if you move, send your new address to Betty Elder. Also contact Erin Getler in BNL's HR Department.
 - b. Mona asked what is in the salary and benefits package when a person takes voluntary layoff. The package varies, depending on years of service, etc., with a maximum payout.
 - c. Scam reminder: always check the sender's email address before sending money. Mark mentioned that banks lost over 1 billion dollars last year, which is why TFCU and other organizations will not use Venmo, Zelle, etc. until there is something they think is safe for their customers to use.

- d. Mark and Andy mentioned bringing in a speaker, such as from the Suffolk County Police Fraud and Crime Prevention Bureau, to discuss scams.
- e. Mark recommended Malware Bytes as one of the best security programs to put on a computer. It gives you a ‘firewall’.
- f. Barry sent a membership check to Betty. Louise will deposit it as soon as she feels better.
- g. *Action: Arnie will appoint someone to reach out to a qualified speaker to discuss scams.*

A motion to adjourn was made by Mark and seconded by Andy. Passed unanimously. Meeting was adjourned at 2:02 pm.

The next meeting will be February 10th at 1:00 pm via Zoom.