

BREA Meeting Minutes
March 10, 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 Arnie Moodenbaugh, Cheryl Conrad, David Cox, Louise Hanson, Yousef Makdisi, Laura Miller, Hue Anh Pham, Mona Rowe, Steve Shapiro, Don Sievers, Barry Siskind, Ed Sperry, Gwyn Williams

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

At the pre-meeting, the BREA Board reviewed the February 10, 2026 minutes. Laura will send them to be posted on the BREA website.

BREA President Arnie Moodenbaugh called the meeting called to order at 1:00 pm.

1. Treasurer's Report. Louise Hanson.
 - a. Louise shared the February report. Interest is posted every three months, so there were no changes to the CDs or savings accounts since the January report.
 - b. She received dues from four people.
 - c. She sent Arnie the statements from the last quarter of 2025 as well as the 1099-INT form.
 - d. She reimbursed Arnie \$320 to pay for a Zoom account for two years, 2025 & 2026.
 - e. Laura motioned to approve the report, Gwyn seconded, passed unopposed.

2. Membership Report. Betty Elder. Betty is unable to attend, the report is given by Arnie.
 - a. 193 members, 177 paid, 458 in 'arrears', one person's dues have been received since last meeting.
 - b. Arnie moved to accept, Louise seconded, approved unopposed.
 - c. Louise suggested that the one-time lump sum fee be extended to

members – that once a member reaches the lump sum amount, they no longer have to pay.

1. **Action:** discuss this revision at the next meeting and come up with a suggested plan. If it's in the constitution, we will need to amend it.
2. **Action:** Arnie will look through the constitution to see if this change can be made without an amendment to the constitution.
3. Community Advisory Council. Next meeting is Thursday, March 12. Mark Israel
4. Newsletter. Mona Rowe. Plans for the June/July newsletter
 - a. It will be an issue on hacking/scamming, etc. Many board members received a scam message 'from' Arnie. Several of us were almost caught.
 - c. **Action:** Mona will reach out to Mark Israel, who is a member of the TFCU Board to see if he can contact the appropriate TFCU person to speak on this issue.
 - d. Gwyn mentioned a safety course he's taken at TJNAF and they mentioned reviewing a 'header' to make sure the sender is not a hacker or scammer. Yousef said that SBU said there is a triangle in the bottom corner and if he 'touches' it, he can see if it's legitimate.
 - e. The RHIC issue is in progress.
5. Recruitment of retiring employees to BREA. Discuss changes in dues scheme to improve enrollment
 - a. **Action:** Arnie will talk to Adam to be able to reach out to employees and upcoming retirees about joining BREA.
6. Possible spring events for members. We intend to schedule a regular BREA meeting that will originate from BNL.
 - a. Arnie will speak to Adam. There are still problems with holding it on-site or in the new building. Emeritus can get access, so Arnie will look into contacting BERA emeritus members to see if they would help.
 - b. **Action:** Yousef Makdisi has a guest appointment that he is renewing tomorrow. He will check to see if he would be able to head an in-person meeting, combined with a Zoom meeting.
 1. Adam said he will do it.
 2. **Action:** Arnie will reach out to Adam to reserve a date and time, possibly in May.
 - c. Planning for potential informal BREA lunch (possibly at Pastaria or BNL cafeteria). Arnie.

1. Try a less formal lunch, maybe ask the person who runs the medicals for the Worker Health Program to talk at some location, perhaps at Berkner or offsite.
 2. Start with the Long Island-based active retirees and try to get interest.
 3. Any ideas for a restaurant-type facility that doesn't have a required minimum number of attendees would be welcomed by Arnie.
 - b. Planning for trip to Plum Island Update. Laura Miller
 1. John Searing is taking a new position
 2. The partial government shutdown, and John Searing's unavailability the last few days before his move meant Laura didn't get any information.
 3. John said he will send the contact information for his replacement and when Laura has received it, she will try to set up a tour of the island.
7. Future Talks and Presentations. Arnie.
- a. **Action:** Arnie will speak to Adrian Esposito and Yousef Makdisi to invite them to give a presentation.
8. New business.
- a. RHIC issue: polarized – what's the significance of polarized in EIC? It is a polarized electron beam where the spin of the electron is known to be either vertical or longitudinal.
 - b. Hue Anh Pham has received a list of people who accepted a retirement package from RHIC and will retire at the end of this month. She will send the list to Mona, who will reach out to them to ask them to join BREA.
 - c. Louise suggested Gwyn give a presentation in an upcoming month. He could discuss free electron lasers and light sources. He also suggested someone from NSLS-II could speak on this topic.
 - d. Arnie is working on bringing our Director, John Hill, in to give a talk.
 - e. Steve Shapiro asked about donating funds to the Long Island Science Museum. They are currently at Tanger Mall and will be moving to a house in Riverhead.
 1. **Action:** Arnie will contact the Long Island Science Museum about a donation.
 - f. Gwyn asked about education outreach. Arnie mentioned the science bowl and the bridge building contest.

A motion to adjourn was made by Laura and seconded by Cheryl. Passed unanimously.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

The next meeting will be April 14th at 1:00 pm via Zoom.