BREA Minutes

From: Dave Cox (Secretary)

Date: Wednesday, July 1, 2009

In Attendance: Arnie Peskin, Ken Mohring, Dave Cox, Alyce Daly, Florence O’Brien, Eena-Mai Franz, Elliot Auerbach, Martine O’Connor, Ronnie Evans, Sonja Santos.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Arnie Peskin, at 12 p.m.

The President requested a moment of silence in memory of Graham Campbell, who unexpectedly passed away on June 16.

The minutes of the June 10 meeting were accepted without any changes. There were no matters arising.

A financial report for the BREA Luncheon held June 4 was presented by the Treasurer, Ken Mohring. Total receipts were $3097, and total outlays $3645, for a deficit of $548, which was within the budgeted amount.

Three representatives from the Huntington Chapter of SeniorNet, a national organization dedicated to the education and training of adults over 50 in computer technology, gave a short presentation about their organization and invited BREA members to a Volunteer Orientation meeting at their recently-opened annex in East Yaphank from 9 am to noon on July 10. They expressed their hope that BREA members would consider volunteering to teach or coach courses.

Arnie Peskin raised the question of allocation of Graham Campbell’s duties, namely as BREA representative to the Community Advisory Committee (CAC) and as editor of the BREA newsletter. Arnie agreed to serve as CAC representative, and Dave Cox and Joyce Tichler agreed to serve as interim editors of the newsletter while a search was conducted for a permanent editor. Dave reported that the July issue of the newsletter had in fact been completed and had been submitted to Photography and Graphic Arts for printing and distribution. Alyce Daly suggested that BREA should send a condolence card to Pat Campbell and should also consider some kind of tribute in memory of Graham. It was agreed to send a card, and Joyce Tichler volunteered to contact Bob Marr about the most appropriate form of tribute.

Arnie Peskin reported on some discussions with Tony Bowman about high CIGNA insurance costs for employees who retired after 2002 but before becoming eligible for Medicare at age 65, but apparently there was nothing the Lab could do in this respect. Retirees were also asked to check carefully any unexpected fees included in their CIGNA insurance statements (such as
“administrative” fees added by the doctor’s office). The Lab would like to be informed of any incidents of this type since such fees may not be permitted under the Lab contract with CIGNA. There was also some discussion of how the Lab might get more involved in senior health care issues, and the possibility of having a list of “FAQ’s” dealing with medical and other retiree issues on the BREA website. Arnie requested that candidate questions of this type be submitted to him for consideration.

The current status of the Lighthouse Safaris trip planned for September 10th, was reviewed. Dave Cox reported that the event had been publicized in an e-mail message sent to the BREA membership, and an article would appear in the forthcoming issue of the newsletter. Gayle Haines, the trip organizer, had agreed to extend the deadline to July 31. Alyce Daly volunteered serve as coordinator and to make phone calls to potential participants.

Arnie Peskin appointed a Nominating Committee consisting of Joyce Tichler, Myron Strongin and Robert Marr for the forthcoming end-of-year elections for the BREA Board.

The next monthly meeting will be held as scheduled on Wednesday, September 9.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:05 pm following a motion made by Alyce Daly seconded by Ken Mohring.