BREA Minutes (final, as revised per comments at meeting Jan. 10, 2017.)

Meeting Date and Place: Tuesday Dec. 13, 2016; 1:00 PM, BNL 490 Medical, Large Conference Room, Upton, NY
Minutes recorded by Secretary Arnold Moodenbaugh.


Contact Brookhaven Retired Employees Association:
BREA
BNL Bldg. 400A
BERA Recreation / Attention BREA
Upton, NY 11973

President Liz Seubert opened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Sign in sheets were circulated for attendees, with names collected shown above.

1. Minutes. Liz Seubert circulated the November minutes and a sign-up sheet. (Draft minutes had previously been posted on the BREA website.) Minutes were approved by voice vote.

2. Treasurer's Report. Steve Shapiro gave an accounting of BREA's finances. Dues received since the last report total $330. The cost of the Nov/Dec BREA newsletter (printing and mailing) was about $400; Liz Seubert and Steve Shapiro, based on previous BREA authorization, contributed BREA funds of $700 to BNL ASAP (Assn. of Students and Post-Docs). BREA assets will no longer be recorded in the minutes. Members should inquire to the Treasurer or President for specific information as needed.

4. Community Advisory Committee (BNL CAC) changes (preceded item 3). Arnie Peskin is stepping down as BREA representative to the CAC. A. P. announced that Eena-mai Franz is appointed the new representative. Mark Israel is the new alternate representative. CAC meets on the second Thursday of each month. Agendas for 2017 meetings has been announced. All members of the public (including BREA members) are invited to attend.

3. Membership Report (Followed item 4). Beth Lin reported that BREA has 457 current members (unchanged since last month). Dues were received from 28 members. About 100 memberships are lapsed (unpaid). Details of member information was requested. Beth Lin reported that about 70 members have no recorded email addresses. Also, about 5-10% of membership is "remote", not residing near BNL.

5. Newsletter. Anita Cohen and Mona Rowe (phone-in) reported. M. R. commented that the color versions of the newsletter should be reserved for subjects of articles, and possibly authors. M. R. comments that one newsletter is sent to France, costing extra postage. The next newsletter will be issued in late December. Any further edits should be sent to A. C. This issue will include several
obituaries. A reminder for workplace screenings should be included in an upcoming issue. M. R. requests descriptions of holiday travel for Mar/Apr issue. M. R. suggests description of access requirements for BNL WiFi (CORUS for outside firewall; BNL appointment for access inside firewall, including library). Steve Shapiro suggested a feature on the role of the CAC (see 4.) at BNL. M. R. commented on the scheduling of talks (see 7. below). Mark Israel agreed to look into legal issues facing retirees.

6. Guest Appointments. Liz Seubert met with Bob Lincoln of BNL HR about guest appointments. Labor Laws and insurance issues restrict how and when retirees can contribute to BNL science. Working for free contradicts minimum wage law, and has other issues as well. Retiree may do "private research" at BNL (example would be to write a book). Another possible route is to obtain an affiliation with another institution. A committee has been set up to consider an official policy on "retirement in stages" or gradual retirement. L. S. did not receive a firm response to inquiries about the possibility of a BREA representative on the gradual retirement committee or on the possibility of obtaining catastrophic drug insurance, similar to that offered to retirees from Savannah River.

7. Dates for upcoming talks. Mona Rowe had comments on organizing BREA talks at BNL. She said that BERA did not help organize the recent talk on Haiti; she did the work herself. Also BNL will not routinely make BREA talks "public", so BREA cannot expect BERA to publicize, even on site. Chris Carter is the BNL contact to schedule talks. Les Fishbone is being lined up to talk on Trekking up Kilimanjaro. Jan. 9, 23, and 27 have BNL Berkner Room B available at noon. It is also possible to schedule just prior to BREA meeting in either Jan. (preferred, Berkner B is scheduled for the meeting) or Feb. (RSB 1&2 is scheduled).

8. Informal Socializing: First Lunch gathering a success. Liz Seubert reported that 14 attended lunch at Phil's in Wading River, Dec. 6 at noon. Future lunches will be announced by email. Jackie Mooney will be provided a list of interested members, and she will send out notification.

9. BREA in the community. It was noted that Little Flower school had a desire to expose children to scientific topics. BREA members could possibly provide some support to the school. It was suggested to bring Little Flower teacher(s) to a BREA meeting to discuss needs and expectations. It was also suggested that the request for help be referred to the BNL office of educational programs. Contact Liz Seubert if you want to discuss this further.

10. New Business. BREA logo? ASAP (see agenda item 2) requested that BREA provide a Logo to them to be used to acknowledge the BREA contribution to ASAP activities. Liz Seubert requested that someone revise the previously used Balloon themed logo while retaining something of the original balloon theme.

Meeting was adjourned about 2:15. Next BREA meetings are scheduled for:
February 14, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)
March 14, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)
April 11, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)
May 9, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)
June 13, 2017 - Berkner, Room B (Bldg 488)
July 11, 2017 - RSB Rooms 1&2 (Bldg 400)
(locations tentative; check location in Agenda posted on BREA website the week of the meeting)