BREA Minutes (approved by voice vote at Jan., 2019, meeting)

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

Meeting Date and Place: Tuesday Dec. 11, 2018; 1:00 PM, BNL Bldg. 400 Rms. 1 and 2, Upton, NY. Minutes recorded by Arnold Moodenbaugh.


Officers 2018-2020: President: Steve Shapiro shapiro@bnl.gov; Vice President: Bob Kinsey; Secretary: Arnold Moodenbaugh; Treasurer: Lillian Kouchinsky; Membership Secretary: Beth Lin; Newsletter Editor: Mona Rowe.

Coffee and cookies (provided by BREA funds) were available to attendees of this December meeting.

1. Call to order. President Steve Shapiro opened the meeting at about 1:00 PM. Sign in sheets were circulated for attendees, with names collected shown above. Call-in phone was ready for use, but no calls were received.

2. Minutes. Draft minutes of the November meeting were circulated. Approval of the minutes was deferred to later in the meeting, allowing members present to review the minutes.

3. Treasurer’s Report. Treasurer Lillian Kouchinsky reported on balances in the various BREA accounts. Accumulated dues income since the November report is $310. Newsletter cost is $320. Report approved by voice vote.


5. Community Affairs Council CAC. Mark Israel reported on the November, 2018, CAC meeting. The demolition of the stack near the HFBR site is planned for completion in 2020. It is possible that foam previously used in firefighting exercises and events may have entered groundwater on the BNL site. CAC is preparing a letter to propose testing in cooperation with Suffolk County Div. of Environmental Quality.

6. Newsletter. Steve Shapiro reported on Editor Mona Rowe’s plans for the Jan/Feb 2019 issue. There will be a feature on email scams as well as an article on an ASAP (BERA student and postdoc cub) member now pursuing a career in science.

7. Medicare Supplement Insurance. AARP F plan supplement insurance premiums will rise 6% for 2019.

8. BREA logo. Liz Seubert reported that evaluation of the proposed designs is continuing. Any design chosen will need some additional refinement before use by BREA.

9. Road to Recovery. Steve Shapiro endorses this program of the American Cancer Society. The intent is for volunteers (hopefully BREA members) to assist patient in traveling from home to and from treatment.
10. Peter Bond Presentation "50th Anniversary of BNL: A Turbulent Time". Peter Bond presented a retrospective of the events in the late '90s surrounding the end of AUI management of BNL, and the start of BSA management. He was involved in much of the activity serving as interim Director. His summary included some of the environmental challenges and successes, the DOE recompete process (selection of a new management entity for BNL), as well as interactions with DOE, the community and political figures. The chaotic year at BNL had an impact not only at BNL, but also on the longer term on management of other DOE labs.

11. Other Business. a) Newspaper Subscription. Steve Shapiro revealed that he received a retiree discounted NY Times on-line, just by asking the telephone representative. b) ID Badges and some auto stickers expire at the end of 2018. These items need to be renewed.

2. Minutes. Minutes of November, 2018, meeting were then approved by voice vote.

15. Adjournment. Meeting was adjourned by voice vote a little after 2:00

The January, 2019, BREA meeting will take place at 1:00 on Tuesday, Jan. 8.