



Minutes for the April 11, 2022, Board Meeting

Opening – Herb Krause

Herb Krause called the Zoom meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

Attendees:

Officers present: Herb Krause, President; Ellen Smith, Vice President; Fred Peretz, Secretary; David Mullins, Treasurer; Bob Compton, Al Ekkebus, David Fields, Carolyn Krause, and Janet Swift, Board Members.

Adjunct members in attendance: David McVicker, James Rome, Kent Williams, and Annette Brun (on behalf of ORNL liaison Katy Brown).

Announcements – Herb Krause

Signatory officers were changed at ORNL FCU; treasurer and secretary records were exchanged. A listing of luncheon lectures from 2004 through 2022 was also circulated to serve as an aid for future programming.

The resignation of David McVicker from roles including luncheon meeting arrangements and history room activities was recognized. The board expressed its thanks for David's service, and David offered a testimonial to the board.

Lab Liaison – Annette Bush reporting on behalf of Katy Brown

Annette Bush identified several ORNL community engagement activities. A workplace giving program was initiated for employees. With many employees returning to ORNL after an extended period of working from home, an Experience ORNL program was developed to ease transition back into the lab. It was observed that some variant of this program would be of interest to FORNL, either as physical tours or as a topic for a luncheon meeting.

Obtaining visitor badges to ORNL for FORNL members was raised. Access to various buildings so retirees could maintain contact with former work was also requested.

Secretary – Fred Peretz

Minutes for the March 7 board meeting had previously been reviewed and approved via email on March 11. A discussion on identification, format, and retention of FORNL records was initiated; Fred is to present a proposal at a future board meeting.

Treasurer – David Mullins

David briefly reviewed the treasurer's report, distributed to the board as a separate file. Only routine transactions were reported. It was agreed that the treasurer's report will be added to the FORNL website as a separate file from the meeting minutes. David noted that the treasurer's report is being maintained as a Quicken file but could be output to Excel or a similar format for transition to a future treasurer. It was also observed that the transfer of PayPal funds to the FORNL accounts is being done manually.

Membership – David Mullins

Lifetime	53 (49 prior March)
Annual	17 (21 prior March)



Luncheon Lectures - Ellen Smith, Carolyn Krause, Bob Compton

Last month's meeting:

March 8: Bronson Messer – ORNL, Oak Ridge Leadership Computing Facility
“Computational Science at the Dawn of the Exascale Era”

Upcoming meetings:

April 19: Colleen Iversen – ORNL, Environmental Sciences Division;
“Ecosystem responses to climate change depend on the hidden world beneath our feet”

May 10: Bonnie Carroll, Retired founder and CEO of Information International Associates;
“Formation and experience of Information International Associates”

A motion was made and passed to begin using a hybrid Zoom/in-person meeting format for the May meeting. Masks will be required of all in-person attendees. No food will be brought to the meeting; the meeting time was adjusted to 11 am to precede lunch (with the subsequent concurrence of the May speaker).

The possibility of a June or July meeting led by TVA Leadership has been considered, although no recent response has come from TVA. A presentation by Jack Dongarra may be of interest, in light of his recent Turing Award from the Association for Computing Machinery. Another possibility would be to have Brian Davidson speak on advanced biological methods for ethanol and hydrocarbon production. It was suggested that the ORNL liaison might help identify interesting ORNL speakers, especially younger researchers.

Media reports

Newspapers – Carolyn Krause: The latest news releases are being posted, including next week's lunch talk.

Facebook – Ellen Smith: Ellen continues to experience challenges with posting. The Facebook page continues to draw traffic and “likes.” Carolyn's writeups provide material for the Facebook site.

Webmaster – Jim Rome

Site maintenance continues. Herb and Carolyn Krause have been posting; the site still needs more input. Fred Peretz mentioned that he may have Powerpoint files from past presentations on the old FORNL laptop.

History Room – David McVicker

With David retiring from the position, a new approach to the history room may be required. The ORNL liaison was briefed on the existence of the room.

In addition to the history room, the luncheon meeting arrangements role was discussed. Furniture in the room needs to be adjusted to meet our needs, then returned to its earlier place after the meeting. A new coordinator should be identified.

New Member Outreach – Syd Ball, Fred Peretz

Addressed in *New Business*



AMSE and Bus Tours – Janet Swift and Al Ekkebus

There are several uncertainties to be resolved before the tours restart. The new K-25 History Center significantly impacts timing. Various considerations impact the ability to expand the tour time or change the start time. One possibility is to reverse the tour order, using the bus ride out to K-25 as an opportunity for an introductory talk.

Manhattan Project – Fred Peretz

PDH Certificates – David Fields

Community Lectures – Kent Williams, Chuck Coutant

Visitor Badges – Syd Ball

No significant reports were given on these topics. Fred observed that the Manhattan Project National Historical Park issues a monthly newsletter covering activities. Visitor badges were mentioned to the ORNL liaison.

Old Business

The draft of the 2021 annual report is needed for review; electronic versions of earlier reports are needed for posting on the website.

The discussion and vote on in-person luncheon meetings was summarized earlier.

A STEM Outreach Committee was approved at the March 7th board meeting. Volunteers are needed for this committee; no response was obtained after Herb's announcement at the March 8 general meeting. Herb will send an announcement to the full email list later in April.

New Business

Discussion on general outreach topics, including community outreach and new member recruitment, was initiated. A motion was made and approved to hold a Zoom meeting to discuss future outreach activities. Herb Krause will host the meeting, with Fred Peretz helping to lead the discussion.

Closing

The next board meeting will be held on May 9, 2022.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Peretz
Secretary, Friends of ORNL