

Friends of ORNL
Board of Directors Meeting
November 8, 2021, 2021
Minutes

<i>Board Members</i>		<i>Officer/Committee</i>		<i>Adjunct Members</i>		<i>Committee Chair</i>
John Gunning	x	President		Bob Hightower	x	
Ellen Smith	x	Vice President, Troika, Facebook		Katy Brown		ORNL Liaison
Dave Mullins		Secretary, Membership		Jim Rome	x	Webmaster
Chuck Coutant	x	Treasurer		Dave McVicker	x	ORNL History Room, arrangements
Kent Williams	x	Immed Past President, Community Lectures		Connor Matthews		
<i>At Large</i>				Kathy Gant	x	
Syd Ball		Visitor Badges		Gloria Caton		
Bob Compton	x	Troika		<i>Guests</i>		
Dave Fields		Professional Development Certs				
Carolyn Krause	x	Publicity				
Fred Peretz	x	MPNHP				
Janet Swift	x	ORNL Tours				

x indicates present at the meeting.

Zoom link for Board Meeting –

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88132938254?pwd=YzhjK0hzUnBGZUV3ZUxPbUk5a05WUT09>

Opening

President John called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM

Secretary – Dave Mullins

The Minutes from the meeting of prior meeting were previously distributed.

The minutes were approved.

Dave was not available to attend the Board meeting this week. Thus, John took Meeting Notes.

Treasurer – Chuck Coutant

All funds are with the ORNL Federal Credit Union. Our accounts are as of November 7, 2021.

Checking account: \$5,037.76

Business Membership Account: \$178.53

CD 1000 (new 14-month Certificate of Deposit): \$10,181.30

CD 1003 (17-month Certificate of Deposit): \$4,676.09

Total assets: \$20,073.68

Activity since last meeting:

- Income: A \$37.50 deposit received from Benevity Matching. An unknown \$22.35 was added to our Business Membership Account. The source of this was explained during the meeting.

- Expense: No expenses

- Two membership dues for 2022 received (\$40.00) yet to be deposited.

Kent relayed that he (FORNL) received in September a check for \$3000 from ORNL. Chuck offered to write an acknowledgment letter.

Committee Reports:

Lab Liaison - Katy Brown

Katy was to introduce herself and provides an update on the status of ORNL. However, Katy relayed earlier that she was not able to attend the meeting today.

Luncheon Lectures - Ellen Smith, Carolyn Krause

Last month's talk -

October 19

Molten Salt Reactors

Dr. Charles Forsberg

Upcoming speakers are below.

The announcement for the upcoming Technical Monthly Meeting was previously distributed.

November 9

ORNL's Technology Commercialization Successes - The Top Ten

Dr. Michael J. Paulus

December 14

No membership meeting

Carolyn was recognized for another excellent article on last month's speaker which appeared on the front page of today's Oak Ridger. Yea Carolyn!!

Ellen and Carolyn reported on planned speakers for January.

Ellen and Carolyn agreed that Carolyn will invite a speaker on Climate Change.

Jim Rushton suggested that we have a speaker from Kairos Power, the developer of the molten salt reactor to be built in OR. He offered to contact the company for a speaker after the license application has been submitted. He will invite the speaker to talk to FORNL in the April – June time frame.

Community Lectures (Kent Williams, Chuck Coutant)

These are mostly in abeyance.

History Room (Dave McVicker)

Treasures from the Archives

These will resume when Dave obtains access to the ORNL History Room.

Membership (Dave Mullins)

No report

Visitor Badges (Syd Ball)

Access to ORNL is currently limited. Therefore, visitor badges are not currently being obtained for FORNL members.

Tours

Bus Tours -Janet Swift

Janet relayed that DOE bus tours are currently scheduled to begin in March. She expressed concern on having volunteer tour guides whenever restart begins. There is also concern on what the covid rules will be. Bob observed that he is willing to speak at AMSE and/or K-25.

Ellen observed some fundraising events requiring folks be vaccinated. Ellen suggested that tour members be vaccinated. This is likely up to the DOE. Fred suggested that the schools be made aware that FORNL has potential speakers, particularly Bob Compton. John delegated the opportunity to Ellen to speak to the Chamber of Commerce.

Janet observed that there is a CORR (Coalition of Oak Ridge Retirees) meeting in this afternoon. She offered to send a link to Board members. This organization focuses on benefits for ORNL retirees. John encouraged Janet to communicate the FORNL organization for CORR members.

AMSE and the K-25 History Center are open and need volunteers. Visitors to the museums are typically not local. 21 on Sunday at the K-25 Museum. Observed that the signage should be improved. There are yet no AMSE bus tours. Virtual Tours of the Graphite Reactor and other facilities at ORNL are available at the link below.

<https://www.ornl.gov/news/take-virtual-field-trip-through-tours-ornl-facilities>

Manhattan Project (Fred Peretz, Chuck Coutant, Connor Matthews, Bob Hightower, Dave McVicker, Jim Rushton, John Gunning)

The Children's Museum and the Manhattan Project National Historic Park reception desk are open.

Fred provided an update. He plans to get out more in the future on MPNHP activities. Volunteers are needed at the NPNHP.

Webmaster – Jim Rome

Jim planned to provide an update. However, Jim's connection was providing feedback and thus communication was difficult. Jim offered to compile a recommendation for website subscription upgrade or related and distribute to the Board. He will also include website usage statistics in this communication.

John relayed a conversation in which Conner communicated that he continues to convert tapes of the Technical Meeting for transfer to the FORNL website.

New Member Outreach – Syd Ball, Fred Peretz

Update on creation of an updated FORNL recruitment brochure. – Fred Peretz
Fred plans to take a simple one-sided brochure through production of a limited number of copies.

Alternate Media – Facebook - Ellen Smith

The FORNL Facebook page has 140 likers or followers.

Ellen plans to include announcement of the recent donation from ORNL on the page.

Ellen to research organizational Zoom account that FORNL might obtain.

PDH Certificates – David Fields

David to provide update.

John encouraged Board Members to check that David is ok as John has not seen him at him at Board Meetings recently.

Nominating Committee – John Gunning – convenor

John provided an update on the status of the Committee.

Appoint additional members of the Nominating Committee and confirm current members.

At least 2 new Board members are needed.

Confirm that current members whose terms are expiring and eligible are willing to run again.

It was moved, seconded, and approved that John, Chuck and Carolyn be on Nominating committee.

It was agreed to ask Gloria.

John plans to solicit at least one Nominating Committee member tomorrow's at tomorrow's Membership Meeting.

Old Business

A meeting occurred September 16th at 10 am among Teresa, John, Ellen, and Janet Swift. Teresa subsequently provided appropriate ORNL contacts with whom to have additional discussions on these issues. John to follow up communicating with Teresa's suggestions.

John plans to focus first on ORNL providing an response email from retired employees on how to contact them, should they so choose.

Jim also emphasized the need to access the library.

New Business

Contributions

Tennessee Science Bowl

John suggests continuing to contribute \$1500 to the Tennessee Science Bowl (TSB), which continues to be one of the largest Department of Energy high school regional science bowls in the nation. This is the amount FORNL contributed last year.

In 2021 TSB, allowed 52 teams to compete virtually, and 300 Tennessee high school students competed.

The 2022 Tennessee Science Bowl that is scheduled in-person for February 25-26, 2022 at the Blount County Campus of Pellissippi State Community College in Friendsville, TN. We are expecting to welcome a record number of teams this year, which will include over 350 high school students and coaches from 60 different schools from across the state. Tennessee has one of the nation's largest regional science bowl competitions from year to year.

Move, second, and approved,

Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair (SASEF).

John suggests continuing to contribute \$500 to the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair (SASEF). This is the amount FORNL contributed last year.

The 71st annual Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair (SASEF) is coming up on March 29, 2022, and will be hosted as a hybrid event. This hybrid event will allow students to choose whether they prefer to participate in-person on the University of Tennessee, Knoxville campus or online via a virtual platform.

SASEF is the premier science and engineering competition for students in middle school and high school in our 23-county service area of East Tennessee. We have promoted teaching the scientific method and its applications in science, engineering and math since 1952.

Move, second, and approved.

Potential future hybrid meetings

Discussion of the possibility of initiating hybrid meetings in January.

It was moved, seconded that FORNL begin hybrid meetings at the January meeting.

After discussion, the vote was 9 aye, 1 nay.

Motion approved.

The Soup Kitchen will not be solicited for meals, but BYO brown bag lunches be permitted.

The announcement will include a requirement that attendees in person be vaccinated.

Dave McVicar offered to make arrangements with the UT Outreach Center.

There were 61 attendees at the October general meeting. Excellent participation!

The next regular board meeting will be: 9:30 AM, Monday, December 13.

Recall there is no Membership Meeting in December.

Adjourn

Respectfully submitted,

John E. Gunning

John E. Gunning
President, FORNL

for

Dave Mullins

Dave Mullins
Secretary, Friends of ORNL