



Minutes for the December 12, 2022 FORNL 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.

Board Members Present: Bob Compton, Al Ekkebus, David Fields, Carolyn Krause, and Janet Swift.

Adjunct members in attendance: James Rome and Kent Williams.

Announcements – Herb Krause

The first draft of a solicitation letter for ORNL support was prepared and is being circulated for comments. A draft of the annual meeting announcement will be prepared for distribution by email in January.

Lab Liaison – Annette Bush or Katy Brown

As of the board meeting, no response to our request for information was provided by the ORNL liaison.

Secretary – Fred Peretz

Minutes for the November 7 board meeting were circulated to the board with the agenda. They were approved and will be posted as submitted.

Treasurer – David Mullins

Checks sent checks to the Southern Appalachian Science and Engineering Fair and the ORAU Science Bowl in 2022 totaled \$3,000. Only one membership check was received in November, and monthly Benevity funds continued to be deposited. The net cash flow for 2022 is a negative \$1,000 but would be positive \$2,000 if a \$3,000 deposit likely from ORNL in November 2021 is credited to 2022. An ORNL certificate of deposit was renewed for 21 months at 4.25%. The treasurer's report was submitted to the board as a separate file and will be added to the FORNL website.

David Mullins noted that our PO box is also being used by an Interstellar Research Group. David Fields was aware of this group, and subsequently addressed the issue.

Membership – David Mullins

Current membership stands at 54 lifetime, 10 annual for 2023, and 24 annual paid through 2022. This compares to 51 lifetime, 35 annual (2021) and 5 annual (2022) at the end of December 2021.

Luncheon Lectures - Ellen Smith, Carolyn Krause, Bob Compton

Last month's meeting:

November 8 – Larry Allard, ORNL Materials Science & Technology Division, "Heating Experiments in the Electron Microscope: A 60-year ORNL Retrospective."



Upcoming meetings:

There is no luncheon meeting in December. The January 10 talk will be from Adam M. Guss, ORNL Center for Bioenergy Innovation, on Synthetic Biology and a Sustainable Future. (Ellen)

February 14 remains open. This is the FORNL annual meeting, and a good speaker should be identified. Although Anthony Mezzacappa had been suggested, speaking on gravitational waves from core collapse supernovae, he is not available on that date (but may be suggested for a later date).

March 14 is tentatively lined up for Susan Hubbard, the ORNL Deputy Director for Science and Technology (Ellen Smith)

Other suggested speakers for future 2023 talks include Cynthia Jenks, Associate Lab Director for Physical Sciences; Travis S. Humble, Quantum Science Center Director; Kirk Sorenson, speaking on the prospects for molten salt nuclear reactors; and Brian Egle, speaking on new ORNL upgrades for stable isotope production.

Possible topics for which speakers might be identified include a new formalized collaboration between the University of Tennessee and ORNL; TVA's collaboration to explore the construction of multiple advanced nuclear reactors, starting with a GE-Hitachi BWRX-300 small modular reactor at its Clinch River site; TVA's strategic planning effort for longer-term electricity generation; Wampler Sausage energy recovery technologies; and activities at the Proton Power biomass-to-hydrogen facility in Lenoir City.

Media reports

Newspapers – Carolyn Krause

On Nov. 9, an article on Scott Brooks' FORNL talk on mercury in Oak Ridge was published in The Oak Ridger. Larry Allard is working on revising a draft of an article Carolyn wrote on his talk that she plans to submit to Ray Smith for the "Historically Speaking" column in The Oak Ridger.

Carolyn updated the FORNL website with summaries of and links to the news releases on the ORNL website since Nov. 9. She is distributing a summary of interesting articles to the board members.

Facebook – Ellen Smith

No significant activities reported.

Hybrid Meeting – Herb Krause

There is no luncheon meeting in December.

Webmaster – Jim Rome

Biographies for current board members are being updated, as former member biographies are removed. Otherwise, no significant activities were reported.

AMSE and Bus Tours – Janet Swift and Al Ekkebus

Glenda Bingham has retired from AMSE. A new hire responsible for volunteer coordination will be arriving at AMSE next month. Bus tours are not being conducted during the winter months.



Community Lectures – Kent Williams, and Bob Compton

With Thomas Zacharia leaving at the end of the calendar year, the possibility of a State of the Laboratory talk does not seem a possibility in the near term.

A strong desire to ensure community lectures resume in 2023 was expressed by the board. The possibility of combining sponsorship of community lectures with other organizations, such as the ORION astronomy group or engineering societies such as the American Nuclear Society or the American Institute of Chemical Engineers was suggested.

New Member and Public Outreach –Fred Peretz, Syd Ball, Bob Compton, and Herb Krause

The Virtual Science Club is a joint venture between SASEF and The University of Tennessee, Knoxville's Pre-College Research Excellence Programs. Several FORNL board members will conduct a panel discussion for the club on December 13.

History Room – Janet Swift and Al Ekkebus

Manhattan Project – Fred Peretz

PDH Certificates – David Fields

Visitor Badges – Syd Ball

Aside from the introduction to volunteer opportunities with the National Park Service, no significant reports were given on these topics.

Old Business

Janet Swift presented the report of the nominating committee. Four of the five persons with terms expiring volunteered to run again and are recommended. Steve Overbury was recommended for a regular term, replacing Janet Swift. Ray Garrett was recommended to fill the remaining year on Bob Compton's term, as he is resigning. Officers were also suggested (with approval at the discretion of the new board). The committee report was submitted for approval, and unanimously approved. It was noted that annual members nominated for the board should check to ensure they are paid up for 2023.

Bob Compton agreed to continue as an adjunct member, and the board approved. Herb Krause will check with other adjunct members to determine whether they wish to continue in their roles.

New Business

A draft letter to solicit funding from ORNL for the 2023 operating year was discussed. The board approved the solicitation, recommending that the request be held to \$3,000 as it has for the past few years. (Subsequently, it was determined that the process for requesting funds from ORNL has changed, and that the window for 2022 submissions has closed.)

Nicole Allen at ETEC was thanked for her support to the 2022 hybrid meetings.

Kent will send out the annual State of Tennessee incorporation registration form.

Closing

The next board meeting will be held at 9:30 am on January 9, 2023.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:58 a.m.



Respectfully submitted,
Fred Peretz
Secretary, Friends of ORNL