

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
July 2, 2015

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12 Noon CDT, July 2, 2015. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes of the May 7, 2015, and June 4, 2015, meetings were reviewed and presented for approval. Lynn moved approval of both and Zonetta seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Update on Chicago meeting

Jerry reported that there were several people taking advantage of the invitation for assessors to attend the Assessment Forum in Chicago at no charge. Total registration for the conference is up to 525 so far and is expected to reach 600. Jerry noted that the NEMC steering committee and conference planning meeting is scheduled for 9am-12pm on Thursday morning and it would be good for Advocacy members to attend this meeting if possible.

4. TNI Ambassadors

Members reviewed the list of suggested TNI ambassadors for pilot states. There were no changes. Next steps include contacting the suggested ambassadors to see if they are willing to serve in this role. Steve volunteered to call them and explain what we are trying to do. After ambassadors have been confirmed for all pilot states, we will arrange a conference call to discuss roles and responsibilities. The ambassadors will also be invited to attend the Advocacy meeting. Members also agreed to Marlene's suggestion to add mention of PTs and NEFAP to the responsibilities of the ambassadors.

5. SLAG Linked In group

Elizabeth explained the Linked In group that she has created for the Small Laboratory Advocacy Group (SLAG). She asked if any members had concerns about the description of the group and use of the TNI logo. There were no concerns expressed. Elizabeth will issue invitations to all members of the Advocacy Committee to join the group.

6. User's Guide

Jerry introduced the draft user's guide to understanding accreditation prepared by Deborah Gaynor of Phoenix Chemistry Services. The guide was written to emphasize the importance of using an accredited lab to analyze for pentachlorophenol in groundwater, which is a specific concern in Vermont. Members felt that with some editing this document would be useful for wider distribution. We will need to ask Deborah for

permission to edit and use her document and also request permission from the Policy Committee to develop guidance. Jerry will draft the request to Policy. Other members of the committee should review the draft guide and note suggestions for edits and/or additions.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Advocacy Committee will be in Chicago on Thursday, July 16, from 1-3 pm. The August 6 meeting of the Advocacy meeting will be cancelled.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Absent
2.	Steve Arms	AB	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Present
4.	Stephanie Drier	Lab	Absent
5.	Martina McGarvey	AB	Present
6.	Stacie Metzler	Lab	Present
7.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
8.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Absent
9.	Elizabeth Turner	Small Lab Advocate	Present
10.	Gary Ward	AB	Absent
11.	Michael Wichman	Lab	Absent
12.	Janice Willey	Federal	Present
13.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Present
14.	Robin Cook	Lab	Present
	Associate Members		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Present
	Judy Morgan	Lab	Absent
	Aurora Shields	Lab	Absent
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Absent
	Judy Duncan	Other	Absent
	Kenneth Jackson	Other	Absent
	Keith Chapman	Other	Absent
	Sharon Mertens	TNI Board Chair	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present