

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
July 7, 2017

1. Call to Order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CST, July 7, 2017. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from April 6 and May 4, 2017, were approved following a motion by Janice with a second from Sharon.

3. Question about Newsletter Distribution

Steve inquired whether the most recent newsletter had gone out yet, since he and several others never received it. Jerry indicated that it was sent on May 23, using a new and different email service. He will investigate further and perhaps send a test email to the Advocacy Committee next week.

4. Agenda for Session at Conference

Identified items for the agenda will be:

- Highlights from the Symposium
- Newsletter Planning
- Overview of 2017 and Future Plans

Jerry noted that many people have early afternoon flights, and recommended planning to end the session no later than 11:30 am.

Advocacy Committee members should plan to attend the conference planning session if possible, since planning for Albuquerque in January will be the primary topic.

5. Advocacy Documents

As TNI's Policy Committee is updating the Document Control SOP 1-104 (part of a 5-year review for all policy documents), Jerry noticed that there are many types of documents posted to various TNI web pages. He loosely referred to these as "advocacy documents" which is what they are called in the current draft of the SOP, but explained that not all actually belong to our committee. They include reports, planning documents, articles, regulatory comments, position statements and press releases, none of which are presently tracked for version or relevance to current TNI policies and activities, but probably should be. Jerry indicated that he is still pondering how best to address these "odds'n'ends" in the SOP itself, and that he may ask for Advocacy assistance in determining which ones are obsolete and should be removed to archive status.

Additionally, Marlene noted that NEFAP (and probably PTPEC as well) has its own "advocacy documents" that have been separately maintained, to date, but should be incorporated into the document management system as it evolves. Jerry mused that perhaps a separate SOP should be developed for these "odds'n'ends" items, and he will pursue the issue further with Policy Committee.

6. Ambassador Reports

Teresa Coins and Lee Wolf reported that there was no active news for their ambassador states. Jerry noted that he received a call from a ND lab that needs accreditation but cannot obtain it in ND, so he referred them to NELAP. Lynn noted that she too has fielded several calls from labs trying to decide how best to achieve accreditation and wondering which states will accept NELAP. For labs not needing to report data to a NELAP state, the NGABs are always mentioned as an option.

This led to a reflection that there is no session for NGABs at conference. The workgroup has dissolved and no new evaluations are expected for several more years, but Jerry offered to inquire whether the three NGABs are actually getting requests for accreditation to the TNI standard.

7. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting of the Advocacy Committee will be on Thursday, August 3, 2017, at 12 Noon Central time. An agenda and documents will be sent by email.

The Advocacy Committee will also meet at 9 am Eastern time on Friday, August 11, the last day of conference in Washington, DC. Teleconference capability will not be available.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Present
2.	Steve Arms	Other	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Present
4.	Stephanie Drier	Lab	Absent
5.	Martina McGarvey	AB	Absent
6.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Present
7.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
8.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Present
9.	Elizabeth Turner	Small Lab Advocate	Absent
10.	Janice Willey	Federal	Present
11.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Absent
12.	Robin Cook	Lab	Absent
13.	Sharon Mertens	Lab	Present
	Associate Members		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Present
	Judy Morgan	Lab	Absent
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Absent
	Celeste Crowley	AB	Absent
	Keith Chapman	Other	Absent
	Teresa Coins	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Andrea Teal	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Bob Pullano	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Lee Wolf	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Paul Junio	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Absent