

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
May 7, 2009

1. Call to order

Judy Duncan called the meeting to order at 12 Noon CST. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes from the 4-2-09 meeting were reviewed and approved for posting on the TNI website.

3. June newsletter

Ken Jackson is editor for the June newsletter. Articles are due June 16. Estimated publication date is June 30. Articles and assignments are below:

TNI NEWSLETTER 2009 -2				
Featured Topics	Assigned to	Email	Due Date for Draft	Status
Training topics: regs and monitoring, data qualifiers, metals spec.	Jerry Parr	jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	June 16	
Mentoring topics: Method mod. New standards	D. Caldwell Jerry Parr	david.caldwell@deq.ok.gov jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	June 16	
Assessment Forum topics	Jack Farrell	aex@ix.netcom.com	June 16	
Member Profile (K. Ryder)	Kirstin McCracken	kmccracken@stl-inc.com	June 16	
Details for summer meeting	Jerry and Carol	jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org carbat@beecreek.nuiet	June 16	
Status of new standards	Ken Jackson	kenjksn@yahoo.com	June 16	
SLAG Update	Len Schantz	lgs@cityofrochester.gov	June 16	
Summary of NEMC meeting	Ilona and Lara Autry	tauntoni@msn.com autry.lara@epa.gov	June 16	
Req'ments for Bd. Members	Aurora Shields	ashields@ci.lawrence.ks.us	June 16	

Sidebar Topics	Assigned to	Email	Due Date for Draft	Status
New Board and officers	Jerry Parr	jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	June 16	
Thursday night boat ride to art museum	Jerry Parr	jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org	June 16	
OW memo	Jerry?			

4. Small Lab Advocate Update

The brochure promoting the Small Lab Advocate and SLAG is complete.

Len Schantz reported he had received about 30 new contacts as a result of his presentation to the New York-PA regional meeting. Several of the labs are radon labs. Len asked if TNI was interested in outreach to those labs. The committee suggested that this group should be set up as a separate group with a separate web page. Len indicated that as the SLAG grows larger, he needs staff support for the conference calls. Jerry indicated that he will address this need.

Jack Farrell joined the last SLAG call and discussed the role and activities of the Technical Assistance Committee (TAC). Susan Wyatt volunteered to attend the Next SLAG call and talk about accreditation body issues.

Len requested ideas from the committee on how to grade (score) lab accreditation issues with respect to relevance to small labs. Len indicated that he will not be able to travel to the San Antonio meeting.

5. Timing for meetings with EPA

After discussion, the committee determined that it is still too early to schedule another round of meetings with key staff at EPA headquarters. This item will be kept as a standing item on the Advocacy agenda.

In a related matter, Jerry reported that he and Lara Autry had discussed the possibility of an MOU between EPA and TNI. The purpose is to formalize the ongoing relationship between EPA and TNI. Jerry requested assistance from the Advocacy Committee on this activity. He would like to see completion by the end of the year. The MOU will be an action item on the next meeting agenda.

6. OW memo re: Roles of Regions and TNI

The memo from Cynthia Daugherty, EPA OW, regarding the roles of regional offices with respect to NELAP accreditation was circulated for review. The committee requested that the memo be posted on the TNI website and included in the next newsletter. It will also be mentioned in the SLA article being drafted for WEF and AWWA state organizations.

7. Judy Morgan's Survey

Jerry reminded the committee that they had intended to analyze Judy's survey in detail and determine if there were action items indicated. Jerry asked Judy to send section by section individual comments without names of commenters.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting will be June 4, 2009, at 12 Noon CDT. The agenda will include discussion of the EPA MOU and the survey comments.

Attachment 1

#	LastName	FirstName	Stakeholder Group	Present	Term
1	Autry	Lara	Other	Y	1
2	Coats	Kevin	Other	N	2
3	Conlon	Pat	Other	N	3
4	Craig	Carl	Other	N	2
6	Moore	Marlene	Other	N	1
7	Duncan	Judy	AB	Y	1
8	Jackson	Kenneth	Other	Y	2
9	Shields	Aurora	AB	Y	3
10	Wyatt	Susan	AB	N	1
11	Eaton	Andy	Lab	Y	1
12	English	Zonetta	Lab	Y	2
13	Perry	Michael	Lab	N	3
14	Pletl	Jim	Lab	Y	1
15	Ward	Gary	Lab	Y	2
16	Wichman	Michael	Lab	N	3
17	Schantz	Leonard	Small Lab Advocate	Y	
18	Parr	Jerry	ED	Y	
19	Batterton	Carol	PA	Y	
			ASSOCIATE MEMBERS		
	McCracken	Kirstin	Lab	Y	
	Morgan	Judy	Lab	Y	

