

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
June 6, 2013

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12 Noon CDT, June 6, 2013. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes of the May 2, 2013, meeting were reviewed. Elizabeth Turner moved that the minutes be approved. Lara Phelps seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Half-day Session on Benefits of Accreditation

Carol reported that all speakers except Cathy Humphreys of TCEQ had been confirmed for the special session in San Antonio. Note: Cathy confirmed by email later that day. Members suggested that we schedule a conference call for all speakers prior to San Antonio to go over logistics and make sure there was no duplication in presentations. This call will be July 22 at 10:00 am Central time. Members also suggested that this session should be highlighted in welcome emails to attendees. We will also consider setting it up as a webinar later.

4. Next Newsletter

Assignments and authors were reviewed for the next newsletter. Lynn suggested that we drop the NELAP update for this issue and all agreed. Due date for articles was changed to June 24, with July 8 as the target publication date.

5. Final review of Small Lab Position Statement

Members reviewed the final edits of the Small Lab Position statement and approved sending the document back to the Policy Committee.

6. OMB memo on federal employee travel

Jerry and Carol presented the memo on federal employee travel issued by the Office of Management and Budget. Jerry pointed out that American Society of Association Executives noted that the memo recognized the importance of federal employee participation in professional associations. We don't anticipate any change in federal participation in TNI meetings as a result of this new directive.

7. Advocacy agenda in San Antonio

Jerry indicated that he needed to publish an agenda for the regular Advocacy meeting in San Antonio. The committee agreed on the following:

1. Review of meeting highlights and special sessions
2. Position papers
3. Assignments for next newsletter
4. Discussion and planning for baseline document covering good practices for environmental labs

8. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Advocacy Committee would normally fall on the 4th of July. The committee agreed to reschedule the meeting to July 2, 2013, at 12 Noon CST.

Attachment 1

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