

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
October 1, 2015

1. Call to order

In Steve Arms absence, Lara Phelps, vice chair, called the meeting to order at 12 Noon CDT, October 1, 2015. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes of the July 2, 2015, July 16, 2015, and September 3, 2015 meetings were reviewed and presented for approval. The minutes could not be approved because of lack of a quorum. Lara suggested that we try to get approval by email.

3. Newsletter

The target date for publication of the next newsletter is October 16. Due date for articles is October 2. Stacie Metzler is the editor. Stacie was unable to be on the call for a status report. Carol reported that she had been unable to find an author for the member profile, so that article had been deleted.

4. TNI Ambassadors

Carol reported on behalf of Steve Arms that the ambassadors to the non-NELAP states had held a second conference call to report on their contacts. Ambassadors had made contact with state representatives in AR, GA, KY, and WI. One of the state representatives had expressed concern that this effort might be perceived a lobbying on behalf of TNI. The ambassadors group will have further discussion on this issue.

5. Letter to the FEM

The final version of the letter to EPA's FEM was circulated for review prior to the meeting. All members present were comfortable forwarding the letter to the TNI Board for their approval to send to the FEM.

6. Young professionals' event

Members continued discussion on an appropriate event at the Tulsa meeting to encourage involvement by young professionals. Lara noted the email that Steve Arms had distributed with ideas from an FSEA member. It was noted that the idea of a breakfast for young professional and first time attendees was well received; however, some believed we should not muddy the waters with first time attendees and young professionals. Another suggested option was a happy hour on Tuesday evening from 5:30-6:30 pm similar to the technology showcase at the summer meeting. This happy hour could start right after the last session.

Members also discussed the age definition of young professional. WEF and AWWA consider anyone under 35 years of age as a young professional. TNI could use a definition of anyone in their 20's or 30's or in their job less than 3 years. We could call it "new professionals". Members also suggested that TNI consider a reduced rate for the first year for a "new professional". WEF offers a reduced rate for a young professional for three years. The reduced rate would apply to all "new professionals", not just the people who attend the meetings. Carol noted that the Ways and Means task force was also suggesting changes to the membership structure and she would pass these ideas along.

7. Handbook

At the last meeting, it was suggested that we be very clear about our expectations for the expert committee review of draft chapters for the handbook. Carol drafted a transmittal letter to the expert committee chairs when a draft chapter was sent for review. Since time was short, Lara suggested that members review the letter and forward comments to Carol.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Advocacy Committee will be November 5 at 12 Noon CENTRAL time.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Present
2.	Steve Arms	AB	Absent
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Absent
4.	Stephanie Drier	Lab	Absent
5.	Martina McGarvey	AB	Present
6.	Stacie Metzler	Lab	Absent
7.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
8.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Absent
9.	Elizabeth Turner	Small Lab Advocate	Absent
10.	Gary Ward	AB	Absent
11.	Michael Wichman	Lab	Present
12.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
13.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Present
14.	Robin Cook	Lab	Absent
	Associate Members		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Absent
	Judy Morgan	Lab	Absent

	Aurora Shields	Lab	Present
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Absent
	Judy Duncan	Other	Absent
	Kenneth Jackson	Other	Absent
	Keith Chapman	Other	Absent
	Sharon Mertens	TNI Board Chair	Absent
	Teresa Coins	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Andrea Teal	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Bob Pullano	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Lee Wolf	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Paul Junio	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Absent
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present