

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting June 5, 2020

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CDT, June 5, 2020. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from April were reviewed. Sharon moved approval, and Josh seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Updates

- **Summer meeting** – Jerry informed the committee that registration for the summer meeting is open.
- **Newsletter** – The newsletter has gone out. Stacie reported that she did not receive it. Jerry will check on it. The fall newsletter editor will be Zonetta.
- **Mentoring subcommittee** – Steve reported that the Mentoring Subcommittee met last week. The group has good energy and has decided to do a questionnaire to help assess a laboratory's needs for mentoring.
- **Press release** – Jerry reviewed the press release he prepared to announce all the resources that TNI has to help California labs comply with their new regulations. Paul will put it on the LinkedIn page and Jerry will put it on the TNI website.

4. Value of Accreditation white paper

Steve reviewed the new draft white paper and noted that this version of the paper evolved from Jerry's PowerPoint presentation after discussions in Newport. Steve suggested that we review the paper section by section and get comments and suggestions for revisions. Comments included:

Introduction

- Delete the second paragraph. The tone is too negative. Make the introduction more positive.
- Note that data quality is not the only reason for accreditation. We only know if data is good if it can be proven. With accreditation, a lab can provide the proof.
- Accreditation provides lab clients with data they can trust.
- Keep the negative in mind and address the concerns without mentioning specifically.

Background

- Add mention that TNI and predecessor organizations have over 25 years' experience in laboratory accreditation.
- Acknowledge naysayers and why we believe they are wrong in this section.
- Discussions have lead us to believe that we have to look at the meaning of data quality in a different way.

Discussion

- A quality management system allows non-conforming work to be recognized. (See Dorothy Love's presentation at Mentor Session) Jerry will write a new paragraph on this topic.
- Present observations as direct quotes. The speakers said, "quotes in italics". Shorten the list.
- Delete the sentence beginning "Critics of laboratory accreditation...."

Conclusion

- Repeat the topic in the conclusion. Note that we have to redefine what we mean by data quality.
- Don't use the word "mantra". Need to use something like "guiding principle".

Next Steps

- Add "Survey data users including ABs to find out their reasons for using laboratories accredited to the TNI standard" to the bullet points.

5. Next Meeting

The next meeting will July 2, 2020, at 12 Noon Central time.

Attachment 1

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