

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
December 5, 2019

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CDT, December 5, 2019. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. Steve asked each member present to indicate whether they would like to remain on the Advocacy Committee in the upcoming year. Responses are indicated on Attachment 1 also.

Steve presented Josh Wyeth's application for membership. Sharon Mertens moved to approve and Robin Cook seconded. All present voted in favor.

2. Approval of Minutes

Minutes from October and November were reviewed. Steve noted a typo in Section 5 of the November minutes which was corrected. Robin moved approval as corrected. Sharon seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Updates/Old Business

- Newport meeting –Steve gave an overview of the two special sessions that Advocacy is sponsoring at the Newport meeting. He reported that “How TNI Accreditation Improved My Lab” and “Implementing and Maintaining a TNI Quality System” are coming together well. Steve also noted that the Advocacy Committee would not meet at Newport and encouraged everyone to attend these sessions. Advocacy will take up the usual winter meeting business in March. Over 100 people are registered for the Newport meeting so far. Jerry will let us know if enough non-NELAP states register to make a lunch meeting with them worthwhile.
- Jerry reported he had sent a letter to the trade association that contacted him regarding using the TNI standard for phthalate testing on costume jewelry. He has also been contacted by the leather products industry with the same questions about use of the TNI standard.
- Robin reported that she has been added as an administrator to the Small Lab LinkedIn page and is seeing some activity there. She is still working on the Facebook page.
- Paul reported that he received comments on committee membership as a result of the article in the last newsletter. Jerry reported that we signed up 3 labs to participate in the method validation study as a result of the article in the last newsletter.

4. Small Lab Advocate

Steve asked Robin for an update on the Small Lab Advocate activities. Robin indicated she has re-started the LinkedIn page and is working with Trinity on the Facebook page. Robin asked if we wanted to have a TNI presence on Instagram? Robin noted that Instagram is very picture driven and she will need people to submit pictures to her to put on the page. Members agreed this was a good idea and gave Robin the go-ahead to begin setting this up.

5. Finalizing comment letter on California rules

Jerry reviewed changes to the California comment letter that he had made since the last meeting. He noted that he had added language about CA ELAP not being eligible to be a NELAP AB because they had deviated from the TNI standard on PTs and technical manager qualifications. Quality Systems still needs to finalize their piece and then Jerry will submit TNI's comments. Jerry

wants to have TNI's comments in one week prior to the hearing which is set for December 18 in Sacramento. Trinity will also attend and tell her story about accreditation of a utility lab and how the standard is scalable and helps a utility produce data that can be trusted by the public.

6. Strategic Plan

There was not time to cover this item and the committee will take it up after the Board finalizes the plan. Jerry noted that developing a mentor plan will likely be the top priority for Advocacy from the new strategic plan. He also noted that we will wait at least a year before reaching out to federal decision-makers about a national accreditation program.

7. Next Meeting

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

Attachment 1

	Name (Continue on Committee?)	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Absent
2.	Steve Arms Yes	Other	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley Yes	Other	Present
4.	Martina McGarvey Yes	AB	Present
5.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Absent
6.	Zonetta English	Lab	Absent
7.	Marlene Moore Yes	Other and NEFAP	Present
8.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
9.	Trinity O'Neal Yes	Lab	Present
10.	Robin Cook Yes	Lab	Present
11.	Sharon Mertens Yes	Lab	Present
12.	Teresa Coins Yes	Lab	Present
13.	Ron Coss	Lab	Absent
14.	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 Yes	Other	Present
	Andrea Teal	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Bob Pullano	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Lee Wolf	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Paul Junio Yes	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Lily Sanchez	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Silky Labie	Other	Absent
	Elizabeth Turner	Lab	Absent
	Stephanie Drier	AB	Absent
	Erin Consuego	Lab	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present