

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
March 1, 2018

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CST, March 1, 2018. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes from February 1, 2018, were reviewed. Sharon moved approval and Robin seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Updates

- Charlie Carter award: Steve announced that Marlene Moore had been selected to receive the Charlie Carter award.
- Newsletter: Lynn reported that notices and reminders have been sent to authors of newsletter articles. She will check with Stephanie to make sure she is on track with the member spotlight article.
- Method validation project: Jerry reported that we are trying to set up a conference call with EPA to discuss how they want to set up this project. EPA is definitely interested. There is some concern that municipal labs may not be able to provide complete data packages. We will need to work through that with EPA.
- FL letter regarding marijuana labs: A letter has been sent from TNI to the Florida DoH encouraging them to consider the TNI standards for accrediting marijuana labs.
- Sorting out of Advocacy documents: Jerry and Steve reported that they have been working to sort out and classify the types of documents that Advocacy and other committees create.

4. Committee application

Steve reported that the Advocacy Committee has received an application from Teresa Coins for full membership on the Advocacy Committee. Teresa currently serves as a TNI ambassador to Arkansas and is an associate member of the Advocacy Committee. A quorum was not available to vote on this application, so the vote will be done electronically.

5. Advocacy documents SOP

Jerry reported that he, Steve, Carol, and Lynn had worked on this draft document. The need for it came to light as he discovered that Advocacy and others have generated a lot of documents that don't have a designated place to be kept or a designated approval process. Jerry also noted that the content management system on our website is being redesigned so that documents will be easier to find.

Members offered the following comments on the SOP:

- In the last sentence, under Purpose and Applicability, add “that relate to TNI advocacy”
- How do we determine what is “official correspondence”?
- Aren’t some emails significant enough to be considered an official communication? How will we save and post those documents?
- We will also need to advise other committees after this SOP is final. There are position papers and other communications created by committees that will fall under this SOP.
- Under Posting and Archiving, we should note that the Executive Director will determine what constitutes “official correspondence” to be posted.

Steve asked Carol to make the suggested changes and the committee will consider final approval at the next meeting.

6. Standards Comparison article

In response to comments received at the winter meeting, Jerry developed an article for the next newsletter which provided a comparison between the 2003 and the 2016 TNI standard. Apparently some labs would be skipping the 2009 standard and going directly to 2016. After discussion, it was determined that the wrong article had gone out. Jerry will re-send and the committee will discuss at the next meeting.

7. The Advocacy task list

Members reviewed the task list. Steve indicated that the purpose of the review was to determine if the task belongs to Advocacy, if it does, who should do it and by when. These items were discussed:

White Papers:

- Benefits of the 2017 TNI standard – Jerry will do
- Why documentation matters (with examples, Jack as a resource)
- Cost of documentation

Bullets 2 and 3 will be the subject of Assessment Forum or Mentor Session and then white papers will be prepared. Jerry will talk to Dorothy Love about this.

Articles:

- APHL TNI overview – Carol will contact Sarah Wright to see what they need from us.
- The Florida experience with NELAP accreditation (use Carl’s information) – Steve will ask Carl to summarize the information.

Regulatory Comment:

- Letter to Florida Office of Medical Marijuana Use encouraging use of TNI Standard for labs – complete. Additional comment as needed. Done

Report:

- Does NELAP accreditation improve data quality? Study design difficult. Some states may have stats that will be helpful. Steve has talked to CA contractor and Christine Sotelo about this project. Not sure how to proceed, but Christine is intrigued by the concept. Christine should be on the Advocacy agenda in New Orleans to discuss.

There was not enough time to complete the task list review, but the list will be updated and review will continue at the next meeting.

8. Next meeting

The next meeting of the Advocacy Committee will be Thursday, April 5, 2018, at 12 Noon CST.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Present
2.	Steve Arms	Other	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Present
4.	Stephanie Drier	Lab	Absent
5.	Martina McGarvey	AB	Absent
6.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Absent
7.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
8.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Absent
9.	Elizabeth Turner	Small Lab Advocate	Absent
10.	Janice Willey	Federal	Absent
11.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Present
12.	Robin Cook	Lab	Present
13.	Sharon Mertens	Lab	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
	Teresa Coins	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Andrea Teal	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Devon Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Bob Pullano	TNI Ambassador	Absent

	Lee Wolf	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Paul Junio	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Lily Sanchez	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Ron Coss	Lab	Absent
	Silky Labie	Other	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present