

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting  
June 7, 2018

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CDT, June 7, 2018. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1. Steve asked members if anyone had any information on Elizabeth Turner who has not been participating as an active member in some time. No one had any information to offer.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes from May 3, 2018, were reviewed. Stacie moved and Janice seconded that the minutes be approved. All present voted in favor.

3. Agenda for New Orleans summer meeting

Steve reviewed the draft agenda below that was provided previously:

- Summary of recent and future activities
- Review of highlights of the New Orleans meeting and identification of potential action items for Advocacy
- Newsletter topics and planning
- Review of conference planning for 2019 meetings

In addition, he noted that the committee had discussed inviting Christine Sotelo to come and give her thoughts about how/why we might go about conducting a study on the value of accreditation. Members agreed that this topic would make a good addition to the agenda and suggested that we make it a panel discussion. Suggested panelists included: Christine, representing the CA program, Ross Coss, representing CA labs, Stephanie Drier, representing NELAP accreditation bodies, and a PT provider, TBD. Steve asked Carol to contact Stephanie to see if she can participate. The panel will be one hour long with the exact format to be developed at the next meeting.

4. Florida DoH rulemaking

Jerry reviewed the comment paper he and Steve Arms had developed in response to revised rules proposed by the Florida Department of Health. As Jerry noted in his background statement, the FL DoH proposed to adopt the 2016 TNI standard into their accreditation program. However, as part of this proposed rule, DOH also proposed to retain six sections from the 2003 NELAC standard. When the TNI Board was informed of this, some members raised strong objections to this "pick and choose" approach. The Board has asked the Advocacy committee to review the proposed rule and make recommendations for the Board to consider. There were three main categories of issues that TNI should consider commenting on.

**1. Citation of the 2009 version of the PT standard:** The proposed Florida rules cited both the 2009 and the 2016 standard for PT reporting and evaluation. Because of differences in the standard between these versions, this will result in confusion in PT reporting.

**2. On-going Demonstration of Capability:** There is confusing and conflicting language referring to both the 2003 and 2016 TNI standard. Members felt this could result in enforcement conflicts for the state agency as well as the labs.

**3. Administrative Requirements:** The proposed rule sets forth 5 administrative requirements from the 2003 NELAC Standard that are mostly contained in Volume 2 as a requirement. TNI suggests this language be incorporated into rule as the 2003 NELAC standard is in the public domain.

After discussion, members agreed that the TNI Board should consider commenting on these rules. Ron made a motion to send Jerry's documents with draft comments to the TNI Board. Trinity seconded. All present voted in favor. Lynn abstained.

#### 5. Standards Comparison Articles

Jerry and Steve discussed the revised version of the TNI standards comparison article with edits provided by reviewers. Members agreed that the edited document should be placed on the TNI website as soon as possible. Additional edits may be needed and can be made when identified.

#### 6. Quality Systems position statement

There was not enough time to consider this document at the meeting. It will be on the agenda the next time. In the meantime, members can provide comments/edits to Carol.

#### 9. Next Meeting

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

## Attachment 1

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Stakeholder Group</b>	<b>Present/Absent</b>
1.	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Present
2.	Steve Arms	Other	Present
3.	Lynn Bradley	Other	Present
4.	Martina McGarvey	AB	Present
5.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Present
6.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
7.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Absent
8.	Janice Willey	Federal	Present
9.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Absent
10.	Robin Cook	Lab	Absent
11.	Sharon Mertens	Lab	Absent
12.	Teresa Coins	Lab	Absent
13.	Ron Coss	Lab	Present
	<b>Associate Members</b>		
	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	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	Small Lab Advocate	Absent
	Stephanie Drier	AB	Absent
	<b>Staff</b>		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Absent