

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
December 6, 2018

1. Call to order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 12:00 Noon CDT, December 6, 2018. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of minutes

Minutes from November 1, 2018, were reviewed. Robin moved that the minutes be approved and Lynn seconded. All present voted in favor.

3. Newsletter Update

Steve thanked everyone for their help in getting the newsletter out. Several members including Robin, Janice, and Trinity indicated that they did not receive the newsletter. Jerry will check his report to see if there are email errors. Paul suggested that we consider having an article in the next Fall newsletter seeking volunteers for the committees. Since we missed it this year, we should include the article in our next newsletter. Steve asked to be reminded of that at the next newsletter planning discussion.

4. Milwaukee planning

The Advocacy meeting in Milwaukee will be on Wednesday, January 30, 2019, from 1:00-4:00 pm. Steve and Carol suggested that we use our standard agenda for the Milwaukee meeting. This includes:

- Summary of recent and future activities
- Review of conference planning for upcoming 2018 and 2019 meetings
- Review of highlights of the meeting and identification of potential action items for Advocacy
- Newsletter topics and planning

In addition, Jerry noted that we should consider having a panel of the NGABs to discuss that issues that have been raised recently about expanding opportunities for use of NGABs, particularly in non-NELAP states. We could invite all four NGABs (one pending recognition) and asked them to give their thoughts on these or similar questions:

- Have you reached out to any NELAP or non-NELAP ABs to understand what they would require to "accept" a NGAB accreditation in their state?
- If yes, what are the conditions of the acceptance?
- What could TNI do to help you expand the program for NGAB accreditation of environmental laboratories?
- The state of Washington has established criteria for accepting an accreditation from a third party. Would something like this be an acceptable solution for you?

Members agreed that we should have a 1 hour and 15 minute panel to discuss these issues at the meeting. Jerry will contact the organizations to invite them. This panel discussion will take the place of the conference call that was originally suggested.

6. Quality Systems Position Paper

Steve reviewed the changes that Robin had made to the position paper that were suggested at the last Advocacy meeting. Sharon moved approval and Trinity seconded. All present voted in favor. Carol will send the paper back to Policy Committee for action.

7. Value of Accreditation project

Jerry reviewed some recent phone calls he had received which reinforced the need for TNI to have a document that speaks to the value of TNI accreditation. After discussion, members agreed that a position statement would be the appropriate format and should utilize information that Stephanie might be able to provide. Carol will start an outline for consideration at the next meeting.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting would normally be January 3, 2019, but will be cancelled since Advocacy will meet later in the month. The next meeting of the Advocacy Committee will be Wednesday, January 30, 2019 in Milwaukee.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
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	Absent
7.	Marlene Moore	Other and NEFAP	Present
8.	Janice Willey	Federal	Present
9.	Trinity O'Neal	Lab	Present
10.	Robin Cook	Lab	Present
11.	Sharon Mertens	Lab	Present
12.	Teresa Coins	Lab	Absent
13.	Ron Coss	Lab	Absent
	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	Absent
	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
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Carol Batterton	TNI PA	Present