

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting  
January 20, 2023 1 pm Eastern

1. Call to Order

The January meeting was rescheduled for the week following conference, since neither the Chair nor the Vice Chair attended conference. Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm Eastern, Friday, January 20, 2023. Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of Minutes and Revised Charter

In the absence of a quorum at the beginning of the meeting (and again at the ending), Steve asked that the November 3 and December 1 minutes as well as the draft revised Charter be approved by email vote. This vote was initiated on January 29 and as of COB January 30, there were nine votes (a clear majority) to approve the motion to approve both minutes and the Charter, as made by Stacie and seconded by Marlene. The Charter has been sent to Policy Committee for review.

3. Preparing for the Spring Newsletter

The next newsletter is being planned for delivery in early May, when NEMC registration opens. Marlene agreed to be the editor, and articles will be due in early April, with a firm date to be settled upon at the March 2, 2023, meeting.

Before then, Jerry will send a “blast” email with several announcements that don’t justify a full newsletter. Articles for the newsletter were identified during the discussion of conference items, which took place later in the meeting, but those are summarized in the table in section 6, below.

4. Review of Urgent Advocacy Document

The PT Program Executive Committee plans to submit regulatory comments in response to a Federal Register Notice (November 30, 2022, Vol. 87, No. 229 pages 73558-73559) inviting input for the submission of an Information Collection Request renewal for the DMR-QA program, run by EPA’s Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assistance. Comments were due by January 30, 2023. The draft comment document was not distributed in advance of the meeting, but Steve asked that an email vote be conducted to approve it, as an Advocacy document.

The original draft was distributed with a request for motion, second and vote on January 20. Robin moved and Trinity seconded that the document be approved, and by the end of the day, eight committee members (a clear majority) had voted, all in favor of approval. Then, on January 23, additional information was added to the approved comment, to incorporate the WET Expert Committee’s long-standing recommendations for improving data comparability of WET PTs, so another approval vote was needed. On January 24, after a few edits and additions to this revision, another email requesting a second vote brought a motion by Stacie with a second from Marlene, and nine votes were cast in favor – again, a clear majority approval, with no negative votes. As Chair of PTPEC, Stacie submitted the comment on January 26, to the docket email designated in the Notice.

5. Special Request from Jerry for Additional Examples of “Bad Data” for Upcoming Presentations

Jerry provided a draft PowerPoint that will form the basis of two separate presentations this spring, and asked for committee members please to provide him with more examples of situations where an implemented quality system would likely have prevented serious errors in lab

data. Steve and Marlene volunteered to send examples, and another participant suggested checking with the third party assessors used by NELAP ABs, as those individuals may have additional illustrative examples.

## 6. Conference Review

As Advocacy does after every conference, participants went through the conference program session-by-session, discussing topics where Advocacy might have a role or issues that warrant a newsletter article. No topics needing Advocacy involvement were identified, but many newsletter articles were designated, plus a member spotlight and an article about Minneapolis (site of the summer conference).

Article Title/Topic	Recommended Author	Author's Email
Summary of Annual Report Topics as reported in Annual Meeting	Jerry Parr	<a href="mailto:Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org">Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org</a>
NEFAP virtual meeting, planned for week of June 6	Tracy Szerszen	<a href="mailto:tszerszen@pjilabs.com">tszerszen@pjilabs.com</a>
Changes to the FSMO Standard	Scott Haas	<a href="mailto:shaas@etilab.com">shaas@etilab.com</a>
Status of EL Standard Module Revisions	Paul Junio	<a href="mailto:Paul.junio@pacelabs.com">Paul.junio@pacelabs.com</a>
Introduction of TNI Credentialing Program	Jerry Parr Ken Brown	<a href="mailto:Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org">Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org</a>
Possible Article from Committee Report-outs at the end of conference (TBD)	Jerry to check with Ilona	TBD
SLA Article about outreach items – LinkedIn, blogs, etc.	Robin Cook	<a href="mailto:cookr@codb.us">cookr@codb.us</a>
Reflections from the Chair	Alfredo	<a href="mailto:asotomayor@mmsd.com">asotomayor@mmsd.com</a>
Member Spotlight – Stephanie Drier	Zonetta English	<a href="mailto:zonetta.english@louisvillemsd.org">zonetta.english@louisvillemsd.org</a>
Election Outcome	Sharon Mertens	<a href="mailto:smertens@mmsd.com">smertens@mmsd.com</a>
Article about NEMC?	Jerry Parr Lara Phelps	<a href="mailto:Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org">Jerry.parr@nelac-institute.org</a>
Article about Minneapolis	Kirstin Daigle?	<a href="mailto:Kirstin.daigle@pacelabs.com">Kirstin.daigle@pacelabs.com</a>

## 7. New Business

There was no new business. Steve thanked everyone for their attendance, and adjourned the meeting.

## 8. Next Meeting

The regularly scheduled February meeting will be skipped due to the delay in convening this January meeting. The next Advocacy Committee meeting will be held on **Thursday, March 2, 2023, at 1 pm Eastern.**

## Attachment 1

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