

Summary of Advocacy Committee Meeting
October 6, 2022 1 pm Eastern

1. Call to Order

Steve Arms called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm Eastern, Monday, October 6, 2022.
Attendance is recorded in Attachment 1.

2. Approval of Minutes

The August 12 and September 1 minutes were approved unanimously after a motion by Robin seconded by Josh.

3. Conference Issues

Jerry discussed his plan for a 2 hour Small Lab Advocacy “listening session”, scheduled for Wednesday morning, paired with a 90-minute new NGAB session that will provide the four NGABs with an opportunity to update attendees on their activities, and he also happily announced that a representative of the San Antonio River Authority will talk at a sponsored lunch about its efforts to reintroduce mussels.

4. Newsletter Update

The editor, Robin, reported that all but two articles are ready to send to Jerry for publication, and the remaining two authors committed to providing their pieces either later in the day or “soon:..

5. Review of Outreach Mailers

Jerry had provided drafts of an email and tri-fold brochure to be used as outreach to all accredited labs that are not currently TNI members. These mailers will be an important step in addressing the goal of creating and sustaining a systematic approach for encouraging volunteers to become involved in TNI activities and ensuring a pool of volunteers is available for all types of committees, Goal 2.1 of the most recent Strategic Plan.

The remainder of the meeting was discussing desired edits to these two pieces. The most substantial change was to include mention of both the NEFAP FSMO accreditation program and the PT program. Jerry estimates that about 1500 accredited labs are not TNI members and that twenty new lab members would cover the costs of the email and print/tri-fold mailing, so participants agreed that this project is well worth doing. A brief discussion of whether it might be possible to build a database of all labs from existing information (DMR-QA, WS, and WP) did not reach a definitive conclusion, but remains a possibility for future outreach.

6. New Business

Lynn noted that she had prepared an updated version of the Advocacy Charter, to include the Ambassador program, but had not distributed it yet, and that the success measure for newsletter publication should be changed to two per year, as that has been the norm for quite a while now. The draft revised charter is being distributed with these minutes.

There was no new business and meeting time was expired. The SOPs and the policy will be taken up in October, with a longer meeting planned to ensure that we actually get to that part of the agenda.

Steve thanked everyone for their attendance, and adjourned the meeting.

7. Next Meeting

The next teleconference meeting is scheduled for Thursday, November 3, 2022, at 1:00 pm Eastern. The agenda and documents will be sent in advance of the meeting. This meeting will be scheduled for two hours, to ensure time to review and revise or approve the draft and revised SOPs, revised Charter and revised policy.

Attachment 1

	Name	Stakeholder Group	Present/Absent
1.	Steve Arms, Chair	Other	Present
2.	Stacie Crandall	Lab	Present
3.	Zonetta English	Lab	Present
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	Present
11.	William Lipps	Other	Absent
	Associate Members		
	Kirstin Daigle	Lab	Absent
	Judy Morgan	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	JoAnn Boyd	Lab and FAC	Absent
	Keith Chapman	Other	Absent
	Kim Chamberlain	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	Lab	Absent
	Stephanie Drier	AB	Absent
	Erin Consuegra	Lab	Absent
	Aurora Shields	TNI Ambassador	Absent
	Carol Batterton	Other	Present
	Celeste Crowley	Other	Absent
	Lara Phelps	EPA (Other)	Absent
	Mike Delaney	TNI Ambassador	Present
	Kathleen Young	Lab	Absent
	Staff		
	Jerry Parr	TNI ED	Present
	Lynn Bradley	TNI PA	Present

