

# House Rabbit Network, Inc.

## Minutes Volunteers' Meeting October 16, 2011 Burlington Public Library – Burlington, MA

### Roll Call

Present: Board Members Cheryl Arena, Jillian Harlow, Linda Massey, Diane Mayer, Cherryl Reinhardt, Suzanne Trayhan, and 6 volunteers

The meeting was called order at 1:15 PM.

### Adoptions & Intakes

So far this year HRN has taken in 184 rabbits, and 106 rabbits have been adopted.

A large rescue effort took place in Lempster, NH last weekend. All females were transported to foster homes to begin spays immediately. Males are temporarily located in another space pending openings. One female gave birth over the week. Six more spays are scheduled for Monday and Tuesday at McGrath and on Wednesday at Littleton. Volunteers were commended for a fabulous job getting these rabbits to safety.

Adoptions are needed more than ever due to the recent rescue, and the group should work on promoting more adoptions. Rabbits from the Lempster rescue may not be available for adoption for 3-4 weeks while they are being treated for parasites and being scheduled for spay/neuter surgeries. A suggestion was made to bring back adoption promotions done in the past (i.e. "Love is in the Hare", "Dreaming of a White Bunny", etc.)

### Financial Report

HRN is currently in the red by about \$3400. Income is down across the all categories. Income for 2011 through Sept. 30 is \$13,352 compared to \$38,000 for the same time period in 2010. The Board of Directors will look into the current financial situation.

### Board of Directors

The Board of Director current consists of 14 members. Astrid Kruse resigned on August 16, 2011 leaving one seat vacant. The Board is working on setting up meetings, and notices about future meetings will be posted to the HRNVol list.

### Websites and Email Lists

The following email discussion lists are set up for communications among different groups.

- HRNVol – Volunteers
- HRNChat – General conversation
- HRNFoster – Foster homes
- HouseRabbitNetwork – used for marketing, news, and announcement only. No discussion.
- HRNBoard2011 – Board of Directors
- Hotline – Hotline volunteers only

Jillian is managing HRN's Petfinder account. HRN maintains a public website and a password protected members section for volunteers. Volunteers are encouraged to look at the members section for information related to volunteer duties, meetings, and intakes/adoptions.

### **Hotline**

The Hotline is looking for additional volunteers.

### **Bun Sitting / Boarding**

Stephanie Vandette is now coordinating requests for boarding. This service brings in approximately \$3,000/year, and is a great fundraiser for the organization. Foster homes receive services at no charge. Boarding a rabbit at someone's home is preferable than doing home visits.

### **Newsletter**

Suzanne is working with new volunteers who will be putting together the next newsletter. A volunteer is needed to assemble news and information for the HRN News section. Suggestions for articles and articles are needed. The newsletter is sent to subscribers via USPS or electronically as a PDF file. Research was done into looking at obtaining a non-profit mailing stamp, but the costs and fees outweighed the benefits for the amount of mailing done by HRN.

### **Education and Events**

Volunteers are needed for an education event next weekend at the Portsmouth, ME VCA. HRN will have a table at the Boston Veg Fest taking place at the end of the month at the Reggie Lewis Center. Veg Fest is a busy event for HRN. New volunteers interested in doing education events are paired with experienced volunteers.

### **Annual Report**

Suzanne has copies of the Annual Report for people who want a copy. The report contains an overview of financial information and statistics about the organization activities for 2010. A link to the electronic version can also be emailed to people who are interested.

### **Volunteers**

A list of tasks is being developed to be distributed so that volunteers and potential volunteers will be able to see what work/skills are needed.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:30 PM.

Minutes submitted by Linda Massey.