

## **Volunteer's Meeting**

**Saturday October 19<sup>th</sup>, 10am at the Shelter**

Attendees- Suzanne, Diane, Janelle, Jen, Beth, Lindsay, Megan-Marie, Stacey, Lisa, Michelle

### **Proposed Department of Agriculture Regulations**

The proposed Department of Agriculture Regulations were discussed. These included items like we can't have drywall for walls, that we may need a health certificates for each animal (initially 30 days but they may make them valid for 1 year), that they can inspect foster homes, we would need estimates of any medical bills for known illnesses a rabbit may have, and more. HRN is against the regulations.

### **Adoptions and Foster Homes**

We have had 141 adoptions so far this year with 8 pendings. Those numbers are pretty good, but we still need more adoptions. We've had increases requests from ACOs and more calls about stray rabbits. We think as more ACOs etc learn about us, our intake requests have gone up. Currently we have 32 foster homes. Stacy S was introduced as part of the medical committee.

### **Hotline**

Hotline is going well. They are currently fully staffed with two new people training or coming on board soon. They would like to remind volunteers that if they wish to adopt they need to go through the hotline, or they can contact Sarah R directly. We need to keep our adoption counsellors in the loop about potential adoptions and get approval.

She would also like to remind foster homes that good descriptions of the rabbits really help out the hotline folks. They rely on the information online to help direct prospective homes to the right rabbits for them.

### **Email Lists**

HRN has several email lists. HRNVol is the main volunteer and organization list meant for HRN volunteer activities and official business. We have a companion list, HRN Chat, which is where people can ask questions and chat about their rabbits. An email will going out reminding people about the different lists that we have.

### **Education**

We get many requests for education events. Diane reported that we desperately need people willing to lead the events. The Boston vegetarian festival is coming up next weekend, and is a very busy event.

### **Web Site**

We have both a public web site and then the private site. The private site is password protected. That is where we keep more detailed information about the rabbits, our volunteer list, notes, forms and other information.

### **Marketing**

Facebook is going well. We are creating a [facebook@rabbitnetwork.org](mailto:facebook@rabbitnetwork.org) email address to help send message to the facebook team. The current newsletter is going out this week. We already have a [newsletter@rabbitnetwork.org](mailto:newsletter@rabbitnetwork.org) email address.

### **Bun Sitting**

Jenny said that bun sitting is going well. We have requests coming in on a regular basis.

### **Fundraising**

Flatbread was successful- raising \$2167. Not as good as previous years, but still a good total. HRN can use a Fundraising Chairman to head the fundraising Activities.

### **Shelter**

The shelter is going well, with steady adoptions. People seem to really like having the shelter to both volunteer at and for adoptions. Janelle is stepping down as shelter manager and we are looking for a new one. We also have a shortage of morning volunteers.