

**House Rabbit Network
Volunteers Meeting
Saturday February 8, 2014**

HRN Email- Megan-Marie and Aimee have been handling the emails, recently it seems as if our volume has increased. They may need additional help in the near future. We are getting more emails from Europe. It has been difficult because having outdoor rabbits is treated differently in Europe, but they also seem to have larger rabbit runs. They also need vaccines. Cheryl A has a contact from Bunny Buddies that she should put in contact with Aimee.

Finances- HRN was in \$2000 in the red last year. We need to carefully review our finances and be careful of our expenses as we don't want to be in the red again.

Grant Writing- We have had a team writing grants for HRN. They submitted to Oxbow, Doris Day Foundation, Gus Hawthorne, Adopt-a-Pet. We did not receive the Oxbow grant, have not heard from the others yet.

Foster buns Advertising- We promote our foster buns on Petfinder and Adopt-a-pet. Currently Lisa and Megan-Marie work on the updates. We get a lot of email inquiries from petfinder.

Shelter- Shelter is going well and people really like going to the shelter for adoptions. They enjoy having a selection of rabbits to meet. Last year we had 68 shelter adoptions. Stacy (current shelter manager) is stepping down and we will be looking for a new one. We are looking into how to better divide the tasks. Leah is doing the scheduling and training new volunteers. Janelle and Stephanie are handling supplies. Lindsay manages shelter adoptions. We can always use more shelter volunteers.

Newsletter- Current newsletter is being worked on and hopefully will be out before the end of the month. (Usually scheduled for Feb 15)

Fundraising- Fundraising committee can use more volunteers. We can sponsor medical expenses for rabbits on our web site now, would like to expand to make it for specific rabbits or expenses. Petfinder added a way to sponsor a rabbit online.

Giggles Comedy Night- Scheduled for Sunday April 13 at 7pm. Last year people had a lot of fun, hoping for better attendance. Need donations for the pick-a-prize auction. Tickets go on sale next week and flyers will be available soon.

Flatbread- hoping to do again in the fall. Need to coordinate donations between Flatbread and Giggles.

Whole Foods Woburn- on the Woburn/WInchester line. Wednesday Apr 16 we will be the recipient of one of their 5% days. 5% of the net profits will be donated to HRN. We need to set up a table that day and encourage people to shop at the store.

Affiliate Programs- We have affiliate programs with Amazon link and Amazon Smile. Megan-Marie recently set us up with Small Pet Select. They have very good hay and will donate 10% back to HRN through the link. They can use the promo code to get a rabbit ring. Payments are made through paypal. Diane mentioned that car donations could be a possible fundraiser.

Bun Sitting is one of our best fundraisers, usually bringing in \$2k-\$3k/year. Jenny Mullen is the bun sitting coordinator. We bunsit for other foster homes for free. Regular volunteers and supporters of HRN are expected to make a donation. It is understood that friends within HRN may bun sit for each other for free, provided they do not go through Jenny. Jenny is working on updating the bun sitting forms.

Craigslist- Can be a good source for adoptions and finding foster homes, as well as educating.

Education & Adoption Events- Diane can always use more volunteers, we have a shortage of them and she is often doing events herself. We try to have at least 2 people at an event and will pair an experienced person with a new person. Events are worth doing. Kelly expressed interest in helping out. We are looking to do an ed event the day before Easter, Sasha might be able to help out.

Foster homes- We can always use more, many people only foster a short period of time. Photos of buns can be sent to update@rabbitnetwork.org. After an adoption there should be a follow up call or email to check in on how the bun is doing. We have a list of supplies that can be given to new homes.

Website- database has made it difficult to upgrade. We are working behind the scenes on upgrading the site and hope to do so within a year.

Email Lists- We have multiple email lists and it is important to know them and be on the right ones.

HRNVol- our main volunteer email list, meant to be low volume.

HRNChat- for supporters of HRN, you can ask questions and tell chatty stories about your bun.

HRNFoster- for our foster homes.

HRNHotline- closed list just for hotline volunteers, needs to be confidential.

HouseRabbitNetwork- monthly bulletins meant for PR for supporters of HRN.

HRNShelter- for shelter volunteers.