

Nebraska Rescue Council – Feb 2015 Newsletter

February 16, 2015 Meeting: The Green Spot, Omaha, NE

Rescues and Guests in Attendance

- Nebraska Pomeranian Resource Center
- Missouri German Shepherd Rescue
- JRT Rescue
- Feline Friendz
- Taysia Blue Rescue



News and Updates

- Kudos to Stephanie Munsey for taking over the NRC Facebook page! She is doing an amazing job with posting educational and action items. To ensure that you are up to date on NRC activities, [like the NRC Facebook page](#).
- We are seeking four (4) new members for the NRC Board of Directors. **Candidate nominations must be received to Jessica Ellis at president@nerescue.org by March 20th to be considered.** Participation is offered in two (2) and three (3) year commitments. Our board announcement is attached. Please forward to interested candidates.
- The NRC has submitted an application to the Omaha Community Foundation to participate in the fundraising event, Omaha Gives, on May 20, 2015. We will have information regarding our application at the April meeting.
- We are seeking a Communications Director to oversee all email monitoring and other media options. This is a volunteer position and we expect the time commitment to be 5-10 hours per month. Please email president@nerescue.org if you or someone you know is interested.
- We continue to offer a monthly **community spotlight** for rescue-friendly veterinarians, pet supply stores, groomers and other local businesses. If you would like your favorite rescue-friendly resource included in future newsletters, send their information to president@nerescue.org and check out our new section below!

2015 Animal-Related Unicameral Update

- **[LB127: Eliminate provisions relating to hunting mountain lions](#)**: Introduced by Senator Ernie Chambers. This bill will eliminate open season hunting of mountain lions and was referred to the Natural Resources Committee on January 12, 2015 and will be heard on **February 26, 2015, 1:30PM in Room 1525**.
- **[LB128: Repeal the Black-Tailed Prairie Dog Management Act](#)**: Introduced by Senator Ernie Chambers. This bill will remove black-tailed prairie dogs from being poisoned through management programs of the Director of the NE Dept of Agriculture. This Bill was heard by the Agriculture Committee on February 3th and has already **advanced to General File**.
- **[LB359: Increase fees collected from dog licenses](#)**: Introduced by Senator Jerry Johnson. This bill will increase the amount that the NE Dept of Ag receives from annual dog licenses from \$1.00 to \$1.25. This Bill was heard by the Agriculture Committee on February 17th. This was introduced to cover a \$30,000 shortfall that the Department experienced in 2014. We fully expect this bill to advance to General File and will keep you posted on its progress.
- **[LB360: Change provisions of the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act](#)**: Introduced by Senator Jerry Johnson on. This bill provides additional inspection standards including those for shelter, injuries, proper food and water, abuse, and sanitary living conditions. This Bill was referred to the Agriculture Committee on January 16, 2015 and was heard on February 17th. We fully expect this bill to advance to General File and will keep you posted on its progress.
- **[LB377: Change provisions and procedures relating to the disposition, care, custody, and costs associated with the impoundment of dogs or cats](#)**: Introduced by Senator Mark Kolterman. This bill requires the Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) Inspectors to file complaints with local law enforcement when an animal is seized, requires impounding by the NDA and specifies cost of care. This bill was heard by the Agriculture Committee on February 17th. This bill was introduced with Amendment 376, which removed language that would have allowed the Department of Ag to dispossess itself of the animals by "sale at public auction." There was overwhelming support for this bill and we expect it to advance to General File.
- **[LB389: Change license and inspection fees under the Commercial Dog and Cat Operator Inspection Act](#)**: Introduced by Senator John Kuehn. This bill increases fees for commercial dog or cat breeders, dealers, boarding kennels, animal control facilities, animal shelters, animal rescues, and pet shops. We do expect an amendment to be included that will exclude rescues and shelters from this increase. Sen. Kuehn is a Veterinarian and offered insight into the sponsor's intentions. Currently smaller-scale breeders pay much more per dog in comparison with large-scale breeders. This addresses that inconsistency. We expect it to advance to General File.

Supplies & Services

- **A social group for Omaha rescuers** is available on Facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/omaha.rescue.leaders.social.group/>. You'll receive notices of social events, rescue placements, etc.
- **Pets in Omaha** is motivated to help educate the public on utilizing rescue services. Please use this important resource!
- Business Sponsorship/Partnership available for flyer distribution: We are considering print sponsorships for local businesses. Business logos will be printed on our redesigned flyer for distribution at local shops. Mellow Mushroom in Lincoln is participating as our first brochure partner and is distributing our information to their patrons. If you know of a business already expressed interest and venues in Omaha are also being considered.

Funding Resources

- AnimalSheltering.org, [click here](#).
- For The Lowell Fund, [click here](#).

Schedule for Upcoming Meetings:

- Saturday, March 28th from 11:00AM-12:00PM in Lincoln, location TBA.
- Monday, April 20th from 6:30-7:30PM – The Green Spot in Omaha, NE
- Saturday, May 23rd from 11:00AM-12:00PM in Lincoln, location TBA.
- Thursday, June 18th from 6:30-7:30PM – The Green Spot in Omaha, NE
- Saturday, July 18th from 11:00AM-12:00PM in Lincoln, location TBA.
- Thursday, August 27th from 6:30-7:30PM – The Green Spot in Omaha, NE

We invite speakers to present at our meetings to discuss various issues including burn-out, rescue supplies, work-life balance, etc. If you or someone you know would be interested in presenting to our group, send an email to president@nerescue.org.

Annual \$25.00 dues for participating rescues are still being collected! Thank you to those of you who have already given to our cause! If you'd like to mail in your payment, please send it to PO Box 540532, Omaha, NE 68154.

Advertising & Promotions

Links to www.nerescue.org:

[Click here](#) to link your website to The NRC!

Ways to Get Involved?

Join us on [Pinterest](#)

Join us on [Facebook](#)

Download our [brochure](#)!

Business Sponsorships available starting at \$50.00. Contact president@nerescue.org for more information.

For a list of current events, visit:
<http://petsinomaha.com/events>

If you have an event you'd like posted, contact
lee@petsinomaha.com

Pets in Omaha is offering a "Rescue Spotlight." If you are interested in being featured, please complete the attached form.

Contact us!

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The Nebraska Rescue Council is a 501(c)3 organization formed for independent, state-licensed, animal shelters and rescues to promote their work, reduce euthanasia and educate the public. Volunteer opportunities are available.