

# State of Rhode Island Office of the Secretary of State

Fee: \$35.00

Division Of Business Services 148 W. River Street Providence RI 02904-2615 (401) 222-3040

# Non-Profit Corporation Articles of Incorporation

(Chapter 7-6-34 of the General Laws of Rhode Island, 1956, as amended)

#### ARTICLE I

The name of the corporation is SuZen Gardens Animal Sanctuary & Resort

# ARTICLE II The period of its duration is X Perpetual \_\_\_

#### **ARTICLE III**

The specific purpose or purposes for which the corporation is organized are:

THE ORGANIZATION HAS BEEN CREATED TO SERVE PRIMARILY AS REFUGE FOR ALL ABANDONED, NEGLECTED AND ABUSED ANIMALS. THE ORGANIZATION WILL SUPPORT

LOCAL SHELTERS AND RESCUES AS WELL AS EXPANDING TO OTHER AREAS OF GREAT

CONCERN (OTHER COUNTRIES AND SOUTHERN STATES WHERE ANIMAL ABANDONMENT

IS MORE COMMON) WITH A FOCUS ON SOUTHERN HIGH KILL SHELTERS.
ADDITIONALLY, THE ORGANIZATION WILL ASSIST WITH ANIMAL ADOPTIONS AND
JUST SERVE AS A LIFELONG HOME FOR PETS UNABLE TO BE ADOPTED OR TOO OLD
TO BE ADOPTED.

SAID CORPORATION IS ORGANIZED EXCLUSIVELY FOR CHARITABLE, RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, INCLUDING, FOR SUCH PURPOSES, THE MAKING OF DISTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT QUALIFY AS EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS UNDER SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, OR THE CORRESPONDING SECTION OF ANY FUTURE FEDERAL TAX CODE.

#### **ARTICLE IV**

Provisions, if any, not inconsistent with the law, which the incorporators elect to set forth in these articles of incorporation for the regulation of the internal affairs of the corporation are:

SAID CORPORATION IS ORGANIZED EXCLUSIVELY FOR CHARITABLE, RELIGIOUS, EDUCATIONAL, AND SCIENTIFIC PURPOSES, INCLUDING, FOR SUCH PURPOSES, THE MAKING OF DISTRIBUTIONS TO ORGANIZATIONS THAT QUALIFY AS EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS UNDER SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, OR THE CORRESPONDING SECTION OF ANY FUTURE FEDERAL TAX CODE.

THE PROPERTY OF THIS CORPORATION IS IRREVOCABLY DEDICATED TO THIS 501(C)(3) EXEMPT ORGANIZATIONS PURPOSE(S) AND NO PART OF THE NET INCOME OR ASSETS OF THIS CORPORATION SHALL EVER INURE TO THE BENEFIT OF ANY DIRECTOR, OFFICER, OR MEMBER THEREOF, OR TO THE BENEFIT OF ANY PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL.

NO PART OF THE NET EARNINGS OF THE CORPORATION SHALL INURE TO THE BENEFIT OF, OR BE DISTRIBUTABLE TO ITS MEMBERS, TRUSTEES, OFFICERS, OR OTHER PRIVATE PERSONS, EXCEPT THAT THE CORPORATION SHALL BE AUTHORIZED

AND EMPOWERED TO PAY REASONABLE COMPENSATION FOR SERVICES RENDERED AND

TO MAKE PAYMENTS AND DISTRIBUTIONS IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSES SET FORTH IN THE STATEMENT OF PURPOSE HEREOF. THE PROPERTY OF THIS CORPORATION IS IRREVOCABLY DEDICATED TO [YOUR 501(C)(3) EXEMPT PURPOSE(S)] AND NO PART OF THE NET INCOME OR ASSETS OF THIS CORPORATION SHALL EVER INURE TO THE BENEFIT OF ANY DIRECTOR, OFFICER, OR MEMBER THEREOF, OR TO THE BENEFIT OF ANY PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL.

WILL NOT ENGAGE IN PROHIBITED POLITICAL AND LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY UNDER 501(C)(3):

NO SUBSTANTIAL PART OF THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CORPORATION SHALL BE THE CARRYING ON OF PROPAGANDA, OR OTHERWISE ATTEMPTING TO INFLUENCE LEGISLATION, AND THE CORPORATION SHALL NOT PARTICIPATE IN, OR INTERVENE IN (INCLUDING THE PUBLISHING OR DISTRIBUTION OF STATEMENTS) ANY POLITICAL CAMPAIGN ON BEHALF OF OR IN OPPOSITION TO ANY CANDIDATE FOR PUBLIC OFFICE. NOTWITHSTANDING ANY OTHER PROVISION OF THESE ARTICLES, THIS CORPORATION SHALL NOT, EXCEPT TO AN INSUBSTANTIAL DEGREE, ENGAGE IN ANY ACTIVITIES OR EXERCISE ANY POWERS THAT ARE NOT IN FURTHERANCE OF THE PURPOSES OF THIS CORPORATION.

<u>IF DISSOLVED, WILL DISTRIBUTE ITS ASSETS WITHIN THE MEANING OF 501(C)</u>
(3):

UPON THE DISSOLUTION OF THE CORPORATION, ASSETS SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED FOR ONE OR MORE EXEMPT PURPOSES WITHIN THE MEANING OF SECTION 501(C)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE, OR THE CORRESPONDING SECTION OF ANY FUTURE FEDERAL TAX CODE, OR SHALL BE DISTRIBUTED TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT, OR TO A STATE OR LOCAL GOVERNMENT, FOR A PUBLIC PURPOSE.

YOUR BUSINESS PLAN SHOULD ALSO ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING STATE REQUIREMENTS:

# **DIRECTORS**

RHODE ISLAND LAW REQUIRES THAT A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION HAVE AT LEAST THREE DIRECTORS AT ALL TIMES. THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF THE INITIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS NEED TO BE PROVIDED ON THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION.

## **INCORPORATORS**

ONE OR MORE PERSONS MAY FORM A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION BY FILING

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION WITH THE RI DEPARTMENT OF STATE. EACH INCORPORATOR MUST SIGN THE ARTICLES, VERIFYING THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED IS TRUE UNDER PENALTY OF PERJURY. THE NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE

INCORPORATOR(S) IS A PERMANENT RECORD. AN INCORPORATOR IS NOT PROHIBITED FROM HOLDING A POSITION ON THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OR ACTING AS THE REGISTERED AGENT. THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE INCORPORATOR(S) END AFTER THE NON-PROFIT CORPORATION'S FIRST ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING IS HELD.

# **BYLAWS**

BYLAWS ARE THE RULES ADOPTED FOR THE REGULATION OR MANAGEMENT OF THE

AFFAIRS OF YOUR NON-PROFIT CORPORATION. BYLAWS ARE NOT FILED WITH THE RI DEPARTMENT OF STATE. THEY ARE HELD INTERNALLY AND ARE NOT PUBLIC RECORD.

### **OFFICERS**

THE OFFICERS OF A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION TYPICALLY CONSIST OF A PRESIDENT, VICE PRESIDENT, SECRETARY, TREASURER, AND ANY OTHER OFFICERS AND ASSISTANT OFFICERS DEEMED NECESSARY. OFFICERS MUST BE ELECTED OR APPOINTED, AS PRESCRIBED IN THE ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OR THE BYLAWS, FOR TERMS NOT EXCEEDING THREE (3) YEARS. ALL OFFICERS WILL BE ELECTED OR APPOINTED ANNUALLY BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS UNLESS YOUR BYLAWS STATE OTHERWISE. ANY TWO OR MORE OFFICES MAY BE HELD BY THE SAME

PERSON, EXCEPT THE OFFICES OF PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY.

# **ARTICLE V**

The street address (post office boxes are not acceptable) of the initial registered office of the corporation is:

No. and Street: 124 GRANDE BROOK CIRCLE

**APARTMENT 1737** 

City or Town: WAKEFIELD State: RI Zip: 02879

The name of its initial registered agent at such address is <u>MARIA LOUISE</u>

#### **ARTICLE VI**

The number of directors constituting the initial Board of Directors of the Corporation is  $\underline{3}$  and the names and addresses of the persons who are to serve as the initial directors are:

Title	Individual Name	Address
	First, Middle, Last, Suffix	Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code, Country
DIRECTOR	MARIA LOUISE VALLETTA LOUISE	124 GRANDE BROOK CIR APT 1737 WAKEFIELD, RI 02879 USA
DIRECTOR	JOHN ANTHONY VALLETTA	124 GRANDE BROOK CIR APT 1737 WAKEFIELD, RI 02879 USA
DIRECTOR	NICHOLAS L LAFLEUR	7B POND STREET UXBRIDGE, MA 01569 USA

#### **ARTICLE VII**

The name and address of the incorporator is:

Title	Individual Name	Address
	First, Middle, Last, Suffix	Address, City or Town, State, Zip Code, Country
INCORPORATOR	MARIA LOUISE VALLETTA	124 GRANDE BROOK CIR APT 1737 WAKEFIELD, RI 02879 USA

#### **ARTICLE VIII**

Date when corporate existence is to begin 09/24/2021

(not prior to, nor more than 30 days after, the filing of these Articles of Incorporation)

**Signed this 24 Day of September, 2021 at 12:14:11 PM by the incorporator(s).** This electronic signature of the individual or individuals signing this instrument constitutes the affirmation or acknowledgement of the signatory, under penalties of perjury, that this instrument is that individual's act and deed or the act and deed of the corporation, and that the facts stated herein are true, as of the date of the electronic filing, in compliance with R.I. Gen. Laws § 7-6.

Enter signature(s) below. MARIA VALLETTA

Form No. 200 Revised 09/07

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