



N970000006342

Department of Environmental Protection

Lawton Chiles
Governor

Marjory Stoneman Douglas Building
3900 Commonwealth Boulevard
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-3000

Virginia B. Wetherell
Secretary

October 13, 1997

Mr. David Mann, Director
Division of Corporations
Department of State
Post Office Box 6327
Tallahassee, FL 32314

MS-535

500002346375--0

Dear Mr. Mann:

This letter is to certify to you that the *Gulf Islands Alliance, Inc.*, is a duly authorized citizen support organization which is under contract to provide support for the Division of Recreation and Parks in accordance with Section 258.015, F.S.

Sincerely,

Fran P. Mainella

Fran P. Mainella, CLP
Director
Division of Recreation and Parks

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

FPM/paw
Attachments

488-6131

Pursuant to F.S. 617.0122
this filing is exempt from any
fees required for incorporation
as a non profit organization when
certified by the Dept. of Environmental
Protection.

"Protect, Conserve and Manage Florida's Environment and Natural Resources"



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE
Sandra B. Mortham
Secretary of State

RECEIVED
Director's Office

OCT 20 1997

October 16, 1997

Div. Of Recreation & Parks

FRAN P. MAINELLA, CLP, DIRECTOR
DIVISION OF RECREATION AND PARKS
3900 COMMONWEALTH BLVD., DOUGLAS BLDG.
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32399-3000

SUBJECT: GULF ISLANDS ALLIANCE, INC.
Ref. Number: W97000023642

We have received your document for GULF ISLANDS ALLIANCE, INC.. However, the document has not been filed and is being returned for the following:

Section 617.0202(d), Florida Statutes, requires the manner in which directors are elected or appointed be contained in the articles of incorporation or a statement that the method of election of directors is as stated in the bylaws.

Please return the original and one copy of your document, along with a copy of this letter, within 60 days or your filing will be considered abandoned.

If you have any questions concerning the filing of your document, please call (850) 487-6923.

Doris McDuffie
Corporate Specialist Supervisor

Letter Number: 097A00050637

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
of
Gulf Islands Alliance, Inc.
A Florida Not-For-Profit Corporation

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

The undersigned, acting as incorporators of a corporation pursuant to Chapter 617, Florida Statutes, adopt the following Articles of Incorporation:

ARTICLE I
NAME

The name of the corporation is Gulf Islands Alliance, Inc., and the address of the corporation is #1 Causeway Boulevard, Dunedin, Florida 34698.

ARTICLE II
TERMS OF EXISTENCE

The period of this corporation is perpetual, unless dissolved according to law or by the affirmative vote of three-fourths of its members. Corporate existence shall commence upon the filing of the Articles of Incorporation by the Department of State for the State of Florida.

ARTICLE III
INCORPORATORS

The name and residence of the Incorporators are as follows:

Jerry Bindas
Post Office Box 1716
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Joani Kelter
2700 Sweetbay Lane
Palm Harbor, Florida 34684

Shelly Brooks
2445 Summerlin Drive
Clearwater, Florida 34624

Deborah Kynes
265 Edgewater Drive
Dunedin, Florida 34698

Lois Houck
Post Office Box 536
Ozona, Florida 34660

Lary McSparren
3490 Old Keystone Road
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Scott Keeler
1138 14th Avenue
St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

Pat McSparren
3490 Old Keystone Road
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

The rights and interests of the Incorporators shall automatically terminate when these Articles are filed with the Secretary of State.

PURPOSE

The purposes for which the corporation is organized are as follows

1. To operate exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue code of 1954 or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law.
2. To raise funds, request and receive grants, gifts of money and property to use and invest for the direct or indirect benefit of Gulf Islands GEOPark.
3. To function as a support group and association to Gulf Islands GEOPark in accordance with Florida Administrative Code 16D-2.01.
4. To increase public awareness of Gulf Islands GEOPark through programs, social functions, projects, and events.

ARTICLE V
PUBLICLY SUPPORTED TAX EXEMPT NONPROFIT CORPORATION

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 Article IV hereof. 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 any candidate for public office. Notwithstanding any other provision of these articles, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (a) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code, or (b) by a corporation, contributions to which are deductible under section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code.

ARTICLE VI
DISSOLUTION

In the event of dissolution, the residual assets of the organization will be turned over to one or more organizations which themselves are exempt as organizations described in Sections 501(c)(3) and 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1954 or corresponding sections of any prior or future law, or to the Federal, State or local government for exclusive public purpose(s).

ARTICLE VII
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The business affairs of this organization shall be managed by a board of directors of at least three (3) persons and no more than twenty-five (25) persons. The Board of Directors may provide by-laws for the conducting of its business, as they deem necessary. New Board Members shall be elected as set forth in the duly adopted by-laws. The number of officers constituting the initial board is no less than five (5), and their names and addresses follow:

Jerry Bindas
Post Office Box 1716
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Shelly Brooks
2445 Summerlin Drive
Clearwater, Florida 34624

Lois Houck
Post Office Box 536
Ozona, Florida 34660

Scott Keeler
1138 14th Avenue
St. Petersburg, Florida 33705

Joani Kelter
2700 Sweetbay Lane
Palm Harbor, Florida 34684

Deborah Kynes
265 Edgewater Drive
Dunedin, Florida 34698

Lary McSparren
3490 Old Keystone Road
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

Pat McSparren
3490 Old Keystone Road
Tarpon Springs, Florida 34689

ARTICLE VIII
INITIAL PRINCIPAL OFFICE, MAILING ADDRESS, AND REGISTERED AGENT

The street and mailing address of the initial registered office is #1 Causeway Boulevard, Dunedin, Florida 34698 and the initial registered agent at that address is Perry Smith.

ARTICLE IX
ADMINISTRATION

This corporation is organized, and shall be operated, on a non-stock basis.

ARTICLE X

MEMBERSHIP

1. The qualifications for membership and the manner of their admission are that any person, including individuals, families and corporations with an interest in the purpose of the corporation shall become a member upon payment of the dues as provided by the By-Laws. The board of directors, by majority vote of those present at any regular or special meeting may, for cause and after reasonable notice, terminate membership or decline renewal.
2. The corporation shall provide for equal membership and employment opportunities to all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex, age, disability, or natural origin.

ARTICLE XI

BY-LAWS

The Directors, by majority vote, are authorized to establish By-Laws for the corporation not inconsistent with these Articles of Incorporation, and amend same from time to time.

ARTICLE XII
AMENDMENTS TO ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

This corporation reserves the right to amend or repeal any provisions contained in these Articles of Incorporation. Amendments to the Articles of Incorporation shall be proposed by the Board of Directors in the form of a resolution, which must be adopted by a majority vote of all members present and those represented by proxy at any meeting of the membership called for that purpose. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, amendments which are required or advisable to obtain or maintain the Corporation's tax exempt status may nevertheless be adopted at a meeting of the Board of Directors by a unanimous vote of the directors then in office.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned subscriber has executed these Articles of Incorporation this 2nd day of September 1997.


Mary
 Mary Johnson
 Lett Kell
 Lois Luck

James B. Ketters
Deborah Lynne
Shelley Brooks
Pat M. Spurren

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SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA

ACCEPTANCE OF REGISTERED AGENT

Having been named to accept service of process for the Gulf Islands Alliance, Inc., at the place designated in these Articles of Incorporation, I hereby agree to act in this capacity, and I further agree to comply with the provisions of all statutes relative to the proper and complete performance of my duties.


Perry Smith