

**ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION
OF
RUTHERFORD BUILDING AGRICULTURAL RELATIONSHIPS NOW, INC.**

Pursuant to Section 55A-2-02 of the General Statutes of North Carolina, the undersigned hereby submits these Articles of Incorporation for the purpose of forming a nonprofit corporation under the laws of the State of North Carolina.

1. The name of the corporation is Rutherford Building Agricultural Relationships Now, Inc.
2. The corporation shall be a charitable, tax-exempt corporation within the meaning of Section 55A-1-40(4) of the General Statutes of North Carolina. The corporation was incorporated after the effective date of Chapter 55A of the North Carolina General Statutes. The primary purpose of this nonprofit corporation is to support a locally-based food system that: a) improves public health and well-being by increasing dietary intake of fresh produce; b) improves access to fresh produce by limited resource families and local impoverished communities c) enhances the capacity for sustainable food production, processing, and distribution by addressing the educational needs of the producer and consumer; (d) supports agri-tourism and economic development in the surrounding areas by providing a direct retail outlet for local agriculture producers, artisans, crafters, food vendors and their goods; (e) provides an atmosphere conducive for exchange of information and ideas between producers and consumers, and; (f) strengthens the social fabric of the local community by increasing awareness and support of local agriculture and the arts.
3. The corporation is organized and operated exclusively for charitable and educational purposes within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, or any corresponding United States Internal Revenue Law (the “Code”), including, and without limitation:
 - (a) Notwithstanding any other provision of these Articles of Incorporation, the corporation shall not carry on any other activities not permitted to be carried on (i) by a corporation exempt from federal income tax under Section 501(c)(3) of the Code or (ii) by a corporation to which contributions are deductible under Section 170(c)(2) of the Code.
 - (b) No part of the net earnings of the corporation shall inure to the benefit of, or be distributable to its directors, 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 its tax-exempt purposes.
 - (c) No substantial part of the activities of this corporation shall consist of carrying on propaganda, or otherwise attempting to influence legislation, and the corporation shall not participate or intervene in any political campaign (including the publishing or distribution of statements) on behalf of, or in opposition to, any candidate for public office.
4. The corporation shall have members as provided in the bylaws of the corporation.
5. The method of election of the directors is set forth in the bylaws of the corporation.

6. The period of existence of the corporation is unlimited.
7. The address of the initial registered office of the corporation in the State of North Carolina is 500 West Street, Spindale, NC 28160, which initial registered office is located in Rutherford County; and the name of its initial registered agent at such address is Brandon Higgins.
8. The street address and mailing address of the principal office of the corporation are 500 West Street, Spindale, NC 28160, which principal office is located in Rutherford County. The principal office telephone number is 828-287-4220 ext. 112.
9. The business email address is rutherfordfarmersmarket@gmail.com.
10. To the fullest extent permitted by the North Carolina Nonprofit Corporation Act as it exists or may hereafter be amended, no person who is serving or who has served as a director of the corporation shall be personally liable for monetary damages for breach of any duty as a director. No amendment or repeal of this article, nor the adoption of any other amendment to these Articles of Incorporation inconsistent with this article, shall eliminate or reduce the protection granted herein with respect to any matter that occurred prior to such amendment, repeal, or adoption.
11. In the event of the dissolution of the Corporation, no director or officer shall be entitled to any distribution or division of its remaining property or its proceeds, and the balance of all money and other property received by the corporation from any source, after the payment of all debts and obligations of the Corporation, shall be disposed of exclusively for the purposes of the Corporation in such manner or to such organization or organizations organized and operated for substantially the same purposes as this Corporation or exclusively for charitable, education, religious, or scientific purposes as shall at the time qualify as exempt organization or organizations under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or the corresponding provision of any future United States Internal Revenue Law), as the Board of Directors shall determine.
12. The name and address of the incorporator are as follows:

<u>Brandon Higgins</u>	<u>500 West St., Spindale, NC 28160</u>
<u>Bob Young</u>	<u>1068 Freeman Town Rd., Rutherfordton, NC 28139</u>
<u>Stephanie Rzonca</u>	<u>164 Harris St. , Rutherfordton NC 28139</u>
13. These Articles of Incorporation shall be effective as of filing.

This the 22nd day of January , 2019.

Rutherford Building Agricultural Relationships Now
Incorporator Business Entity Name

Signature of Incorporator

Brandon Higgins – President _____
Incorporator's name and title

Adopted: 01/22/2019
Modified: 01/22/2019