

## **Forever Wild Foundation, LTD Minutes**

**August 6, 2024**

### **1st Meeting**

**Location: The Forever Wild Tavern, 140 NY-10, Arietta, NY**

A group of interested individuals joined to create a club (preliminary name "Forever Wild Foundation, LTD"). In attendance: Jenny Smith, Rod Lang, Matt Sullivan, Wendy Sullivan, Deb Hutchinson, Tim Hutchinson, and Dicky Hart. Personal contact information for each attendee was collected and given to Jenny.

Jenny Smith called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM.

Jenny presented preliminary bylaws, mission statement, and a certificate of incorporation for Forever Wild Foundation LTD, as a not-for-profit corporation. The purpose of the club is to establish a wildlife rehabilitation center (with the goal of release to the wild) and provide a multitude of year-round services to help keep recreation and tourism a positive experience of the Southern Adirondacks.

Wendy suggested gaining an investor in the future.

Tim suggested reaching out to NYS Trails Council for grants, as they had grant money available for trail improvements relating to trail erosion.

Jenny received a \$1,000 check from James Meinhold (32 Pamela Lane, Saratoga Springs, NY 12866) in support of the Forever Wild Foundation, LTD. Wendy will send a thank you letter to Mr. Meinhold.

Jenny received a grant for disaster relief, in the amount of \$250.00, from David Crawford. She stated that she would send a thank you letter to Mr. Crawford. Jenny also stated that there is another grant available.

Wendy suggested a sign-in box and how improving the walking trails would help the snowmobile trails. Jenny talked about adopting the West Branch of the Sacandaga for cleanup of waterways. It was decided that this would be tabled for now. Andrew Ormiston has expressed interest in helping with the roadway cleanup portion. Discussion took place regarding the need for different committees, with volunteers serving as chairs for the committees. It was decided that the club would start with a manageable workload and expand, with a focus on trails and wildlife.

Matt discussed the establishment of the Board of Directors (BOD); it was agreed by all in attendance that 3 BOD members is sufficient for now. Current BOD: Wendy Sullivan, Dicky Hart, and Tim Hutchinson

Discussion took place regarding new members and potential officers. Wendy made a motion to nominate Jenny Smith as president, seconded by Dicky Hart. All in favor-motion carried.

Tim Hutchinson made a motion to nominate Deb Hutchinson as secretary, seconded by Wendy Sullivan. All in favor-motion carried.

Jenny discussed the success of the July 13th Kayak Poker Run.

Rod suggested personally reaching out to the people involved in the Poker Run, as possible officers or volunteers. Jenny presented a detailed account of monies from the July 13th Kayak Poker Run, collected from Margaret Beekman and Patricia Dineen. A balance of \$4,098.00 after expenses was reported. Jenny and Deb will verify the amount. Jenny will keep the money in the safe until a treasurer is nominated. This organization is also in need of a vice president.

Jenny discussed the need of purchasing equipment earmarked specifically for club maintenance (rather than using personal equipment). Tim talked about some members having had the chainsaw course in Lake Placid.

Wendy suggested **Forever Wild Rivers and Trails.com**, as the website domain name is available. Discussion took place regarding the word "foundation" being included. Further discussion needed.

Matt suggested having an attorney review the bylaws.

Tim suggested an agenda for the next meeting.

**Goals for next meeting:**

Deb - type and send minutes to those in attendance

Jenny - create logo, letterhead, email, website, and Facebook page

Jenny - provide a copy of bylaws and certificate of incorporation to those in attendance

Jenny - create agenda for the next meeting

Wendy - thank you to James Meinhold

Jenny - thank you to David Crawford

Jenny and Deb - count Poker Run money for deposit

All - review and edit the bylaws

All - solidify the name of the club and website name

Next meeting, Wednesday, August 28, @ 2:30 PM, location @ Sullivan's camp

Wendy motioned to adjourn at 6:26 PM, Tim seconded the motion. All in favor-motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Deb Hutchinson

Recording Secretary

