

Governor's Residence Council Meeting

Virtual: MS Teams Meeting

Wednesday, October 28, 2026
9:30 to 11:00 am

1. Welcome and Call to Order

2. Conflict of Interest Declarations

3. Approve Minutes of July 29, 2026 Meeting……..……...……..…….....…Approval

4. Balance Transfer Resolution ……..Approval

5. Chair's Report ……Informational

    - 2027 Meeting Dates
        - Wednesday, January 27, 2027
        - Wednesday, April 28, 2027
        - Wednesday, July 28, 2027
        - Wednesday, October 27, 2027
    - Terms ending

6. Committee Chair Updates…….…….……...……...Informational

    - First Family Circle
    - Landscaping
    - Interior Design
    - Public Engagement

7. Residence Manager Report ……...……....…….……...…..Informational

8. Other Business Updates……...……...…....……...Informational

9. Adjourn



GOVERNOR'S RESIDENCE COUNCIL

Wednesday, July 29, 2026, DRAFT Minutes

Members Attended	YES	NO		YES	NO
Patricia Crego, Public Member	X		**Rep. Ginny Klevorn**, Minnesota House	X	
John Dietrich, Public Member	X		**Katie Knutson**, Public Member		X
Jeffrey Feulner, American Society of Landscape Architects	X		**Catherine Nicholson**, Public Member	X	
Vicki Ford, Donor's Family Representative	X		**Marilyn Porter**, Public Member		X
Hannah Quinn, Governor's Designee	X		**Dr. Angel Smith**, Public Member	X	
Sue Gens, MN State Arts Board	X		**Julie Spiering**, North American Society of Interior Design	X	
Tamar Gronvall, Commissioner, Dept of Administration (ADM)		X	**Amelious Whyte**, Chair, Public Member	X	
Eric Hansen, American Institute of Architects		X	**Liz Young**, Public Member	X	
Sen. Karin Housley, Minnesota Senate		X	**JoNes VanHecke**, Higher Education Representative		X
Christine Jones, Minnesota Historical Society	X				

1. **Call to Order**

   Secretary Gens called the meeting to order at approximately 9:36 a.m. A roll call was held to establish attendance. The meeting was hybrid and held in person at the Kellogg Center in Saint Paul, with Microsoft Teams used for the virtual option. Interested individuals were able to monitor the meeting remotely at no cost. The meeting agenda was posted on the Governor's Residence Council (GRC) website to ensure public access.

   Also in attendance were Governor's Residence Executive Director Jill Winzenburg, Legislative Director Julie Bayerl (Administration), Director of Operations Jacob Hafften (Administration), and Josie Meloy (Legislative Communications Officer).

2. **Conflict of Interest Declarations**

   Secretary Gens requested that members declare any conflicts of interest related to the agenda items, as required by Section 8 of the Governor's Residence Council bylaws. No conflicts of interest were reported.

3. **Minutes of April 29, 2026, Meeting**

   Secretary Gens invited edits to the previous meeting minutes. Hearing none, a motion was made by Dietrich and seconded by Klevorn to approve the April 29, 2026, minutes. A roll call vote was conducted; all members present voted in favor, except Whyte, who abstained due to not attending the previous meeting. Feulner and Smith were not present for this item and did not vote.

   Secretary Gens noted the Residence has not received any gifts since the April meeting, so there is no gift log to approve.

4. **Financial Reports: January – June 2026**

   Secretary Gens called for discussion on the financial reports covering January through June 2026. Brief discussion occurred regarding gifts received by the Council. Jacob Hafften (Admin) provided an overview of the reports. Secretary Gens called for a motion to approve the reports. Klevorn moved to approve January-June financial reports; Nicholson seconded. A roll call vote was conducted; all members present voted in favor, except Smith, who abstained. Feulner was not present for this item and did not vote.

5. **Chair's Report**

   Secretary Gens discussed a proposed resolution for consideration at the next meeting to transfer the remaining funds to the unspecified funds account, consolidating the Council's available balances. Members should expect to see the resolution included in the next meeting materials and be prepared to vote on it.

   The Council continued discussing potential funding sources for landscaping, including a legislative request, grants, and other fundraising options, as well as the processes and timelines associated with each. Members acknowledged that a more developed project plan is needed before pursuing funding. Discussion also addressed which stakeholders should be involved in beginning the planning process and determining the scope and requirements for a future RFP covering both landscape design and the landscaping work itself.

6. **Committee Chair Updates**
   - First Family Circle and Restoration: No updates.
   - Landscaping: No updates.
   - Interior Design: No updates.
   - Public Engagement: Jones shared information about previous tours of the Governor's Residence organized by the Women's Organization of the Minnesota Historical Society.

7. **Residence Manager Report**

   Residence Director Jill Winzenburg provided an update on the Residence.

   Dietrich asked whether there were ways the Council could help make the Residence more welcoming during the final months of the administration. The Residence Manager agreed to follow up with ideas.

   Members also discussed Halloween plans and the possibility of the Council helping solicit candy contributions for distribution at the Residence.

8. **Other Business Updates**

   No other business was discussed.

DRAFT

9. Adjourn

At approximately 11:02 a.m., Secretary Gens declared the meeting adjourned.

DRAFT



Governor’s Residence Council

MEMO

Date: October 28, 2026

Background:
A balance of $32.06 remains in the Council Expenses account, G0239066, from funds allocated to a previous project. The Council is being asked to approve moving the remaining balance to the Unspecified Funds account, G0239061.

RESOLUTION

RESOLVED, by the Governor’s Residence Council, at its meeting on October 28, 2026, that it approves transferring $32.06 from Council Expenses account G0239066 to Unspecified Funds account G0239061.

Approved by the Governor’s Residence Council

DATE: _____

BY: _____
Sue Gens
Secretary, Governor’s Residence Council

2026 Governor’s Residence Council Members and terms

Per Minnesota Statutes 16B.27, subdivision 3…
The Governor's Residence Council consists of the following 19 members: the commissioner; the spouse or a designee of the governor; the executive director of the Minnesota State Arts Board; the director of the Minnesota Historical Society; a member of the senate appointed pursuant to the rules of the senate; a member of the house of representatives appointed pursuant to the rules of the house of representatives; 13 persons appointed by the governor including one in the field of higher education, one member of the American Society of Interior Designers, Minnesota Chapter, one member of the American Institute of Architects, Minnesota chapter, one member of the American Society of Landscape Architects, Minnesota Chapter, one member of the family that donated the governor's residence to the state, if available, and eight public members with four public members' terms being coterminous with the governor who appoints them. Members of the council serve without compensation. Membership terms, removal, and filling of vacancies for members appointed by the governor are governed by Minnesota Statutes section 15.0575. The council shall elect a chair and a secretary from among its members.

Statutory members

Commissioner	Tamara Gronvall
Governor’s designee	Hannah Quinn
Minnesota State Arts Board	Sue Gens
Minnesota Historical Society	Christine Jones
Member of the Senate	Karin Housley
Member of the House	Ginny Klevorn

13 members appointed by the governor

Higher education representative	JoNes VanHecke	01 Jan 2029
American Society of Interior Designers representative	Julie Spiering	04 Jan 2027
American Institute of Architects representative	Eric Hansen	03 Jan 2028
American Society of Landscape Architects representative	Jeffrey Feulner	04 Jan 2027
Member of the donor family	Vicki Ford	04 Jan 2027
Public member	Patricia Crego	04 Jan 2027
Public member	John Dietrich	04 Jan 2027
Public member	Katie Knutson	04 Jan 2027
Public member	Catherine Nicholson	04 Jan 2027
Public member	Marilyn Porter	04 Jan 2027
Public member	Angel Smith	04 Jan 2027
Public member	Amelious Whyte	03 Jan 2028
Public member	Elizabeth Young	04 Jan 2027