



**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR**

**CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU**  
Governor

**STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE  
BY HIS EXCELLENCY  
CHRISTOPHER SUNUNU, GOVERNOR**

**Executive Order 2022-08**

**An Order Establishing the Bridges House Advisory Board**

**WHEREAS**, by the Fourth Clause of her Will, dated September 30, 1967, Doloris T. Bridges conveyed her land and residence located at 21 Mountain Road, Concord, New Hampshire (the "Bridges House"), including all household furnishings and equipment located thereon, in a charitable bequest to the State of New Hampshire for the "Charitable Purpose" of being "used and maintained exclusively as the official residence of the Governors of the State of New Hampshire incumbent from time to time;" and

**WHEREAS**, since Mrs. Bridges' generous charitable bequest, the State of New Hampshire has been, and continues to be, the owner of the Bridges House property, real and personal, and has used and maintained, and continues to use and maintain, the Bridges House property as the official residence of the incumbent Governor of the State of New Hampshire; and

**WHEREAS**, the Friends of Bridges House, Inc. was established as a New Hampshire voluntary nonprofit corporation on March 24, 2006 for the purpose of "the preservation, utilization, and stewardship of Bridges House, a gift from Senator and Mrs. Styles Bridges and the official residence of the Governors of the State of New Hampshire since 1969, and to educating the public about the architectural and historical significance of the house, its furnishings, and its grounds."

**WHEREAS**, due to substantial efforts by former first spouse Dr. Susan Lynch, former first spouse Tom Hassan, current first spouse Valerie Sununu, and other important volunteers acting individually and through The Friends of Bridges House, Inc. (FOBH), the Bridges House has been substantially improved and maintained, is currently in good condition, and serves as the official residence of the Governor of the State of New Hampshire, and also provides an important resource for State agencies and the citizens of the State of New Hampshire; and

**WHEREAS**, since its formation in 2006, FOBH has performed its charitable purposes with respect to the Bridges House in accordance with its mission, and in accordance with the provisions of a Memorandum of Agreement between the New Hampshire Department of Administrative Services (DAS), dated as of May 19, 2014, which Agreement was supplemented by a further Agreement between DAS and FOBH, dated as of February 19, 2016, both of which

established the responsibilities of the State and FOBH regarding the acceptance of gifts by the State and the use, improvement, and maintenance of Bridges House (the "Prior Agreements"); and

**WHEREAS**, in contemplation of this Executive Order, FOBH expects that it will undertake all actions necessary to terminate the Prior Agreements, to dissolve its existence, and, upon dissolution, to distribute any assets held by FOBH to a State account to be established for the exclusive benefit of Bridges House; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Hampshire is committed to, with the support of an Advisory Board, continuing to administer, use, maintain and improve the Bridges House consistent with the Charitable Purpose.

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTOPHER T. SUNUNU, GOVERNOR** of the State of New Hampshire, by the authority vested in me by Part II, Article 41 of the New Hampshire Constitution, do hereby order, effective immediately, that:

1. There is hereby established a Bridges House Advisory Board to support and advise the incumbent Governor and DAS with respect to their administration, use, maintenance, and improvement of the Bridges House, at all times consistent with the Charitable Purpose.
2. The Bridges House Advisory Board shall:
  - (a) Review all information related to the financial status of the Bridges House, including but not limited to current operating and capital expenditures, depreciation, investments, insurance coverage, acquisitions or dispositions of personal property or furnishings, and state budget matters.
  - (b) Review all information related to the status of the real and personal property comprising the Bridges House, including but not limited to plans or designs to maintain or improve the Bridges House or to remove property from the Bridges House premises.
  - (c) Review all information related to fundraising matters conducted for the benefit of the Bridges House, including but not limited to plans for fundraising events, campaigns and projects.
  - (d) Participate, as able, in approved fundraising events, campaigns, and projects.
  - (e) Make recommendations to the Governor and DAS for how the Charitable Purpose should be protected and promoted and with respect to all of the matters listed above in section 2 of this Executive Order.
  - (f) Coordinate with DAS on procedures for the State to receive gifts for the benefit of the Bridges House, including procedures relating to the conduct of fundraising events, campaigns and projects.
3. The Advisory Board shall consist of at least 12 members:

- (1) the then-incumbent Governor or his or her designee;
  - (2) the Commissioner of the DAS or his or her designee;
  - (3) the Commissioner of the Department of Natural and Cultural Resources or his or her designee;
  - (4) each former Governor or spouse of a former Governor, as the former Governor may determine; and
  - (5) Nine members appointed by the Governor.
4. Each of the appointed members shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor for a term of three years, and until a successor has been appointed.
  5. Seven members of the Board shall constitute a quorum.
  6. Members shall perform their Advisory Board duties without compensation and shall not be entitled to reimbursement for expenses incurred in attending meetings of the Advisory Board.
  7. The incumbent Governor or his or her designee shall serve as Chairperson. The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Advisory Board and shall exercise overall supervision of the Advisory Board.
  8. The Advisory Board shall also have a Secretary, who shall be nominated by the Chairperson, which nomination is approved by majority vote of the members at each annual meeting. The Secretary shall maintain the minutes of the meetings of the Advisory Board and perform such other functions as may be determined by the Advisory Board from time to time.
  9. The Advisory Board may establish committees as the Advisory Board deems advisable, and such committees may include non-Advisory Board members with skills relevant to the committee's work.
  10. Meetings of the Advisory Board shall be subject to the following requirements.
    - (a) An annual meeting of the Advisory Board shall be held in each year at such place, date and time as shall be designated from time to time by the Chairperson.
    - (b) Regular meetings of the Advisory Board shall be held at such times as the Chairperson may determine from time to time; provided that regular meetings shall be held not less frequently than quarterly, and the annual meeting may be designated as one of such quarterly meetings.
    - (c) Any action required to be taken at a meeting of the Advisory Board shall be authorized by a majority of members present at any meeting at which a quorum is present.

- (d) All meetings of the Advisory Board and its committees shall be subject to the requirements of RSA Chapter 91-A.
  - (e) Any member that is absent from two consecutive regular meetings is subject to immediate removal by the Chairperson.
11. The Advisory Board shall coordinate its meetings and other efforts with the Governor's Office through the Executive Director of the Bridges House or other designee within the Governor's office.
  12. DAS, with the assistance of the Advisory Board, shall submit an annual report to the Director of Charitable Trusts by November 15<sup>th</sup> each year. The report shall include a brief narrative about the past years' use of the Bridges House, an income statement, fundraising report, and donor restricted funds statement.
  13. The Advisory Board shall continue pursuant to the terms of this Executive Order, and shall be subject to such modifications as may be required by subsequent duly issued Executive Order or as otherwise required by law.

Given under my hand and seal at the Executive Chambers in Concord, this 1<sup>st</sup> day of November, in the year of Our Lord, two thousand and twenty-two, and the independence of the United States of America, two hundred and forty-six.



**GOVERNOR OF NEW HAMPSHIRE**