

Inaugural General Meeting

5 December 2021, 14:00, Zoom meeting

**Chair:** Howard Maclean

**Minute taker:** Andrew Donnellan

**Present:**

* Interim Committee
  + Howard Maclean (Chair)
  + Edward Smyth
  + Matthew Bowes
  + Andrew Donnellan
  + Michael Turvey
* Other Members
  + Peter Johns
  + Eben Leifer
  + Ryan Hemsley
  + Nicholas Erskine
  + Aymon Wuolanne
  + Laura Farag
  + William Loughton
* Observers
  + Jordyn Gibson
  + Skanda Panditharatne

# 1 Welcome and Apologies

Meeting opened at 14:06.

Apologies: Matthew Bowes will be attending late

# 2 Report of the Interim Committee

Howard Maclean presented a report on the activities of the Interim Committee.

* In operation since June/July (Manor House campaign) - we didn’t know at the time we’d be an organisation
* Manor House campaign has 196 signatures right now, and significant media and political attention
* We have set up social media channels and have begun campaigning on other issues, we have made 2 formal submissions (public housing in Griffith and TA2021-14 YWCA supportive housing issue)
* We have been admitted to the ACT Environment and Planning Forum - we now have a direct voice in the room
* (Michael Turvey: we also started doing community building)

# 3 Certification of Membership

Membership fees will initially be $20. Only attendees who complete the application form will be able to vote on the remaining questions in this meeting.

Existing people involved in the community will not have to sign up for membership if they don’t want to pay the membership fee - our organisation doesn’t exist as a legal entity yet.

# 4 Approval of Statement of Objects and Rules

Howard Maclean presented the proposed rules.

The constitution is largely based on the ACT Model Rules. We made a number of changes:

* Add more precise election provisions
* Reworked disciplining of members
* Committee is 4 officers + 3 OCMs + up to 2 co-opted OCMs
  + Elected by STV
  + Anyone can nominate for positions up until the start of the election - in writing ahead of time or verbally to the RO
* Ability to appoint acting secretaries/treasurers
* Access to documents
* General ability to hold meetings online, and general meetings/disciplinary meetings will always have an online option
* Question from Eben Leifer: Membership fees - s7(3) - can we waive individual membership fees? We discussed this and decided not to include it

Statement of objects:

* Required document to define purpose of organisation
* Question from Peter Johns: can we put in something about good urban design and the role of public spaces? "I suggest the objects should also include references advocating for high quality urban design and public spaces. Planning review talks about achieving better design outcomes - which should be supported. The spaces that surround these developments and which are needed by people living in them are important to achieving high quality development."

**Motion:** Defer consideration of statement of objects until after item 6. **Carried**

**Motion:** That the proposed rules be amended as follows:

* Add the following subsection after subsection 7(3):  
    
  “(4) The committee may, by resolution, waive (wholly or in part) the membership fee payable by a person under subsection (1) for a specified period. The committee may not waive the fee of any person who is currently a member of the committee.”
* Move the note after subsection 7(3) to after subsection 7(4), and alter it to read as follows:  
    
  “Note: The setting of alternative membership fees under subsection (3) or waiving of membership fees under subsection (4) must not constitute discrimination under the Discrimination Act 1991 or any other applicable law.”

Moved: Eben Leifer

Seconded: Andrew Donnellan

**Carried**

**Motion:** That the proposed Rules of Greater Canberra Incorporated are adopted.

Moved: Andrew Donnellan

Seconded: Eben Leifer

**Carried**

# 5 Election of Returning Officer

Ryan Hemsley nominated as returning officer by Howard Maclean.

There being no other nominations, Ryan Hemsley was elected returning officer.

# 6 Election of Inaugural Committee Members and Office Bearers

## 6.1 Convenor

Howard Maclean submitted a nomination in writing.

There being no other nominations, Howard Maclean was declared elected as convenor.

## 6.2 Deputy Convenor

Michael Turvey submitted a nomination in writing.

There being no other nominations, Michael Turvey was declared elected as deputy convenor.

## 6.3 Treasurer

Edward Smyth submitted a nomination in writing.

There being no other nominations, Edward Smyth was declared elected as treasurer.

## 6.4 Secretary

Andrew Donnellan submitted a nomination in writing.

There being no other nominations, Andrew Donnellan was declared elected as secretary.

## 6.5 Ordinary Committee Members

Matthew Bowes and Eben Leifer submitted a nomination in writing.

Aymon Wuolanne nominated from the floor.

There being no more nominations than the number of positions to be filled, Matthew Bowes, Eben Leifer and Aymon Wuolanne were declared elected as ordinary committee members.

# 6A Statement of Objects

**Motion:** To amend the proposed Statement of Objects as follows:

* Omit all words in paragraph (1) after “housing”
* Insert a new paragraph after (1) that reads as follows:  
    
  “(2) advocate for high quality urban design and urban intensification in the Canberra region, including high quality public transport, urban amenity, walkable neighbourhoods and public green spaces”
* Renumber paragraphs (2)-(4) to (3)-(5)

Moved: Andrew Donnellan

Seconded: Peter Johns

**Carried**

**Motion:** That the proposed Statement of Objects of Greater Canberra Incorporated is approved

Moved: Andrew Donnellan

Seconded: Eben Leifer

**Carried**

# 7 Incorporation of Association

**Motion:** That:

(a) Andrew Donnellan, a resident of the ACT over 18 years of age, is authorised to apply to incorporate the association under the name Greater Canberra Incorporated, in accordance with the provisions of the *Associations Incorporation Act 1991* (ACT)  
  
(b) the members elected at this meeting (Howard Maclean (Convenor), Michael Turvey (Deputy Convenor), Edward Smyth (Treasurer), Andrew Donnellan (Secretary), Matthew Bowes, Eben Leifer and Aymon Wuolanne (Ordinary Committee Members)) are appointed as the inaugural members of the committee of the association in the event the application is successful.

Moved: Andrew Donnellan

Seconded: Eben Leifer

**Carried**

# 8 Other Business

Andrew Donnellan requested that everyone complete the membership form

Michael Turvey thanked everyone for attending and participating.

Eben Leifer condemned Howard for calling a meeting at 2pm on a Sunday.

# 9 Meeting Close

Meeting closed at 15:00.