

Loretta Parker-Brown


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Friday, May 27, 2022

The Cooperative Hall of Fame Committee

RE: Application for Induction of Linda Leaks into the Cooperative Hall of Fame

To Whom It May Concern:

With much enthusiasm, I am writing this letter to wholeheartedly recommend Linda Leaks for induction into the Cooperative Hall of Fame. Linda is an active and devoted social advocate who supports numerous humanitarian causes. Still, more than anything, she is dedicated to maintaining affordable housing for low and moderate-income residents. So, I am never surprised to run into her downtown during a demonstration, rallying with purpose.

I met Linda in 1988 when she was a tenant organizer and team member with WISH; the organization that guided us through purchasing our 42-unit apartment complex (43 after the conversion), which we succeeded in buying and converted to a limited-equity co-op.

As one of the original members of the Florian Gardens Cooperative (FGC) Board of Directors, I worked closely with Linda. Our tenants were as impressed with her as was I. When she wasn't assisting our board with understanding the process of getting financing, as training coordinator, she held workshops, instructed our tenants on the intricacies of the purchasing procedure, and advised us how to manage our property after we purchased it.

On September 20, 1989, Linda and I were among several witnesses who testified before the DHCD Oversight Committee advocating for financing to maintain moderate and low-income housing in our city. I represented Florian Gardens. Linda spoke with confidence on behalf of the 919 L Street Tenant Association.

Linda is a born leader. She is not only highly knowledgeable about housing cooperatives, but she is also professional, and her passion and commitment to maintaining affordable housing is unquestionable.

I strongly recommend Linda Leaks' induction into the Cooperative Hall of Fame.

Sincerely,



Loretta Parker-Brown
Member, FGC Board of Directors & Co-op Secretary