

April, 2019

From the ad hoc committee established to review the request to lay down the NY Quarterly committee on housing and the involvement with the Friends In The City housing corp.

Ad hoc committee members: Katherine Alford, Trustees, Steven Monroe Smith, NYQM M&C, Dave Britten, Morningside and Joan Malin, Brooklyn.

The committee agrees, though with reservations expressed by Dave Britten that the Housing committee and the FITC Board, as constituted, has done its work. We should be proud of our role in launching this project. To remind Friends, the recommendation brought forth by Carol Jackson was to lay down the Friends in The City committee and insure that any relation to the Cedars housing project was handled appropriately. Brian Doherty, at the Trustees direction, reviewed all relevant documents and stated that there is no ongoing legal commitment or obligation on the part of Friends to this project that can't be simply resolved by the board of the Friends In The City. Brian D has also spoken to Carol J and other members of the board, who are in agreement with the recommendation and the following steps, as outlined here – one, FITC Board should change its name, and second, the bylaws requiring a majority of Friends needs to be removed. The current board members would then resign. The Lantern Group, the current manager and a reputable developer and manager of affordable housing would then reconstitute the new Board. With these changes, the housing corp will no longer have a connection to the NY Quarterly meeting. The FITC Board can take these actions as soon as possible. The NY Quarterly housing committee can be laid down without these changes made in advance but with the understanding that the FITC board will comply shortly.