

**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL  
REGULAR MEETING**

**JUNE 18, 2024**

**SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF  
MAYOR NAN H. RICH**

**From:** [Friedman, Bernie](#)  
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**Subject:** CORRECTED VERSION- THE EXTRAORDINARY LIFE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MARTA-BETH FRIEDMAN AND BLESSED MEMORY= REVISED VERSION  
**Date:** Wednesday, June 12, 2024 12:00:24 PM  
**Attachments:** [image713030.png](#)  
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Dearest Nan and Harrison. Thank you so much. Marta so deserves this recognition. She was relentless in her pursuit. Below is a brief compilation of her life and some of the work she did. I think it would be nice to add to the back up so folks know she is worthy, and this is not about me. I had nothing to do with any of this. Thanks. Love from all our family. CORRECTED VERSION WITH CHARLIE AND FAMILY ACCOMPLISHMENT AS HER GREATEST ACCOMPLISHMENT IN HER LIFE.

Marta was an activist member of the Broward County Library Advisory Board for over 20 years. She championed children's programming and worked build a bridge between our libraries and childcare early learning canters in our community. She worked with Barbara Weinstein and the then CEO of a non-profit organization that annually provides family support services and subsidized childcare for about 5,000 impoverished, abused, and neglected children in Broward County. Marta also worked with our Broward County School Board to ensure a safe and supportive environment for school children for after school to continue their learning and have the benefit and resources that libraries offer. Marta championed two new libraries in her hometown of Hollywood, on Stirling Road and City Hall Circle. She obsessively and tirelessly advocated for the funding and was enmeshed in all the details of the design, construction, and operation of the new libraries. Marta also quarterbacked with then City Commissioner, Senator Eleanor Sobel, a shared City and Stirling Elementary School Playground. Marta's other passion was

Jewish Education. As a Judaic Studies Major at the University of Miami, and a student of the Hebrew Academy of Nassau County, the Molly Goodman Academic High School in Ashkelon, Israel, and the Hebrew Academy, Miami Beach, FL, Marta spoke fluent Hebrew and was a scholar in Jewish History, the Torah, and so much more. For Many years, Marta taught for the Central Agency for Jewish Education in Miami Dade County and Broward County. Marta also served on the Board of the Holocaust Documentation and Education Center and the Board of the Jewish Family Services of Broward County. Marta was a child of a Holocaust survivor. Her father, Erwin Stern of blessed memory, lost his mother, father, sister and over 50 cousins in the Holocaust. Marta-Beth Friedman was named after her father's mother(Marta) and Beth (Aunt) who were murdered by the Nazi's at Auschwitz.

Marta gave enormously to science and the advancement of treatment for Pancreatic Cancer as a patient in the Tumour Infiltrating Lymphocyte Trial at the National Institute of Health. She spent 7 months in the trial and 2 months in the NIH Hospital. The scientists and doctors worked tirelessly to try and cure Marta and although they failed, they learned so much more about the disease and how to help others. Marta was also a patient of the Memorial Cancer Institute, Hollywood FL, Sylvester Cancer Center Miami FL and Memorial Sloane Kettering in New.

Marta and her family have been major supporters of the Pancreatic Cancer Action Network and have been one of the top five fundraising teams in the country over the last six years. Team Becker, in Honor of Marta, has raised over \$500,000 during this time at the annual Purple Stride walks to raise awareness and funds for better treatments and a cure someday.

Marta's greatest accomplishment is being the matriarch of our family. Marta was the chief convener, nurturer, and the glue that held our family together in America, Israel, Canada and anywhere else. She loved all things family unconditionally and was always in charge.

Marta is survived by her mother, Geraldine Stern, husband Bernie Friedman, daughter, Elana Friedman Polashuk, son-in law Jeff Polashuk, grandson Charlie (the greatest gift given to Marta and the ability to spend three magnificent years bonding together) brother Lyle Stern and Sister-in-law U.S. Federal Judge Beth Bloom and many nieces, nephews, and cousins, including Jacob a recent graduate

of Harvard Law School and an Officer in the U.S. Marine Corp, Oliver who is studying at London School Economics and Emily at Emerson College AND grand dog Toy Poodle Teddy who comforted Marta in the final year of illness 24-7.

## **Bernie Friedman**

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