



100 MARTINE AVENUE ■ WHITE PLAINS, NEW YORK 10601  
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### MINUTES OF MEETING 1/14/2016

Attending; Betty Barone, Kathlyn Carroll, Brian Kenney, Lee Palmer, Rhoda Phillips, Angie Poulos, Faith Robinson

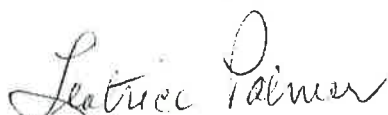
The meeting began at 10AM, the minutes of the previous meeting were read and accepted.

Kathy requested funds for the refreshments for the staff luncheon on 1/21. The remarks from the staff indicate the success of said luncheon. The food was terrific, the decor festive and everyone seemed to have a lovely time. We thank all who pitched in to assist: Sandy and Theresa from Administration, Sue Siegel and all this under the steady hand of Betty, who really knows how to run a show. We Friends enjoy this event and, of course, plan to do it again next year.

We donated 12 boxes of children's books for the PTA book give-away in the Spring.

Susan Gordon, a White Plains resident and author wrote to Brian about her book (see attached) and we think she'd be an interesting speaker at our annual meeting. Brian said he'd contact her and make arrangements for her appearance. Her honorarium will be \$200.

Our next meeting will be on February 11<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM in the Board room - with hopes that the weather will cooperate.

  
Leatrice Palmer  
Secretary



**SUSAN J. GORDON**  
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December 14, 2015

Brian Kenney, Director  
White Plains Public Library  
100 Martine Avenue  
White Plains NY 10601

Dear Mr. Kenney,

I'm a White Plains resident who visits our library as a researcher, local author, and, simply, a reader. Now I'm proud and pleased to announce the forthcoming publication of my book, *Because of Eva*, by Syracuse University Press in April, 2016. Part memoir, part detective story, "*Eva*" tells how mysteries in my family's past prodded me to delve into World War II and Holocaust history.

I enjoy reading your articles in Publishers Weekly, and recall your recent comments about people wanting "help doing things, rather than finding things." *Eva* is not a genealogy textbook, but I think my experiences will inspire readers. My research into my family tree led me through a side door into the past, where personal history merged with world history. I went down a path I never knew existed, and learned that what I'd been told in childhood -- "No one in our family died in the Holocaust because everyone was safely here" -- was only wishful thinking.

What began as a seemingly simple search for an elderly second cousin who had signed my estranged grandfather's death certificate years ago led me to track her down in Tel Aviv. All I expected to learn was what happened to my grandfather; instead, I heard Eva's stories of survival in Nazi-occupied Budapest in 1944. Such is the magic of genealogical research - you go looking for one thing and find something else. It didn't take long for me to realize that you can't research Jewish genealogy without colliding with the Holocaust. Eventually, I would retrace Eva's steps in Budapest and also visit ancestral towns in Ukraine to bear witness to the slaughter of entire populations of Jews.

*Because of Eva* is an important addition to the growing collection of contemporary works of non-fiction that deal with personal history in the surrounding context of world history. Enclosed is a copy of the Press's description of *Because of Eva*, as it appears in the Spring 2016 catalog. I hope you will order copies of *Because of Eva*. I'd also be happy to speak about it at the White Plains library.

Thanks for your kind attention and consideration.

Best regards, and happy holidays,



Member: Authors Guild; American Society of Journalists & Authors; American Jewish Press Association.