

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition – 06.22.21

Rise and Resist Contact Information:

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 - General email: info@riseandresist.org
 - Press email: media@riseandresist.org
 - Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)
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Facilitators: Jennifer V & Stu W. **Notes:** Heather Q.

Good News

ACA survives third Supreme Court case - it was thrown out as frivolous. After 11 years, the Republicans may finally be giving up.

Manchin agreed to move S1 to a vote. A procedural temperature-taking vote split 50-50 along party lines, meaning it could not survive a filibuster. The good news is that now it is clear that only Republicans oppose this voting rights legislation.

Susan: in response to an NFL player coming out as gay, the NFL added a Pride flag to their logo. Alexandra pointed out that a Black player came out years ago and never got another contract.

From Mark H. via chat -- More good news!

<https://thehill.com/homenews/senate/559720-10-arrested-amid-protest-outside-sinemas-office-in-arizona> Ten protesters were arrested outside of Sen. Krysten Sinema's (D) office on Tuesday while demonstrating against her support of the filibuster.

Action Report Backs

*June 17- Immigration Action - Jamie B: We had a small immigration vigil at the Staten Island Ferry with some new signs. We had a fair amount of pushback along as the usual thank-you's. Someone walked past Jamie to hit Stu's anti-Trump sign, probably not by accident.

*June 18 - Say Their Names - every Friday at 5PM at 96th/Bway. Jenny H.: The sun finally came out on a Friday at 5:00! There were about 30 people in attendance. One of the pictures of our "White Supremacy is Terrorism" banner at the vigil continues to appear on MSNBC with some frequency. It was an exceptionally noisy Friday afternoon with increased traffic and a Lubevitch group playing loud music at the same intersection. Jonathan W. added that they are frequently seen and heard around the city on Friday evenings, so it's not related to our vigil.

*June 21 - Chubb Insurance - Climate Action. Jonathan W.: this was an action against the Trans Mountain Pipeline, which is insured by Chubb. This pipeline is destructive for the entire west coast and harmful to the indigenous people who live along the pipeline construction. This was another action with the Rainforest Action Group. The action moved up 6th Ave. to MUFG's headquarters, where they encountered a bit of resistance, including someone who was trying to photobomb all of Diane's pictures. By moving two feet from the fountain, they were then on city property and nobody could complain.

Jonathan showed a video of the AIG action from a few weeks ago that is now available to share on social media. Look for it on our Twitter feed and if you want your own copy, email Jonathan vonpod@rcn.com

Upcoming Actions

*Thursday, July 1 at 8:30PM Screening of "The Biggest Obstacle" — Jennifer V: Rise and Resist will be hosting a virtual screening of this feature-length film featuring members of our Elevator Action Group. To RSVP for the live event https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdO5j_fht2yW3aIT4mmyxkKzvG-UI8B-ADsSzCijvHn48BYrQ/viewform

There will be a recorded livestream, but you won't be able to participate in the Q&A if you watch the livestream, only if you watch through the link you will receive by RSVPing. Any questions, contact Jennifer jvandyck@rcn.com

The Biggest Obstacle, produced and directed by Gearóid Dolan, shows the many problems that impact people with different types of disabilities throughout NYC's public transit system. What started off as a short profile documentary grew into a feature-length film following Jessica Murray's role in advocacy activities, over the span of two years, to make the system more accessible.

*Immigration action - Jamie B: there is an action being planned on an immigration theme for early July. It will be an affinity-group style. If you would like more information contact Jamie.

*Beds Not Body Bags July 10 Jamaica, Queens - Mark H.: this will be the 5th action of the Beds Not Body Bags series. This one will be Saturday, July 10 at noon until about 1:00, along the northeast corner of Rufus King Park, outside a former hospital that is now a luxury housing building. This action will be staged as a "memorial service" for this hospital and the other six that have been closed over the last decade, leaving Queens with one of the lowest per capita hospital bed ratios in the country. The Healthcare Action Group has been creating new props for this event to center the people of Queens who died during the pandemic due to this lack of healthcare. Take the F train to Parsons Blvd and exit from the back of the train, and it's a short walk to the park.

*Save the Date - the next End Vaccine Apartheid action targeting Pfizer will be the morning of Wednesday, July 14 in Midtown, with a focus on Germany's refusal to loosen vaccine patent restrictions. More details to come.

*July 18 Morningside Park - Reclining Liberty Action -Heather: Save the date for a Kill the Filibuster action and/or brunch picnic on the morning of Sunday July 18 (with the possibility of a companion action on July 11). This will take place at the Reclining Liberty Statue in Morningside

Park, with an emphasis on creating social-media-ready photos and videos while welcoming community participation. If you're interested in helping to develop the action, please plan to join the June 30 Actions Committee meeting.

Discussion on how to utilize our mailing list - getting word out to people via email instead of/in addition to social media.

Jennifer V: We have been very conservative with using our mailing list, but maybe we have been too conservative and too reliant on Facebook.

Donna G.: It's a good idea to use the email list so people don't have to take the extra step of looking at Facebook to see what we're up to.

Elaine M.: It's more welcoming, in a way, if the announcements came to our inbox.

Susan L: It would be great, sometimes it's hard to find what we're supposed to do.

Jonathan: We should be doing this. It needs to be done judiciously and pointedly. We're becoming a bit insular these days and our coalition partners are sending out emails while we are not. Hopefully this will invite more people to join us.

Mark H: an email that goes out once a week would be good, with a process to get announcements to someone to be included. Facebook events are good, but when coalitions invite us to share their events, that notification isn't always seen by the person who can share it. It's a bunch of work and a commitment to take on a weekly newsletter type email.

Andy R: there's a mass email that goes out Monday night/Tuesday morning about the meeting that includes any events Andy knows about at the time. This email goes to thousands of people. Do we want to continue to do this as part of the reminder email or as a stand-alone? There's an additional email that goes to the people (hundreds) who've opted in for reminders of the Zoom meeting.

Livvie M: How many in each list? Andy: the mailchimp is a little below 3000, the Zoom list is about 500 people. Livvie: Does Comms maintain this list? Andy: Yes.

Livvie: has never noticed the events listed in these emails. The events email should have a different look and a different subject line so it stands out. People should know that this is where to go to look for events, much like people knew to look at the Justice for George IG last year.

Alexandra W: We should have a template that is different and stands out. We'd need to have some kind of gatekeeping function. Would people email in their announcements? Would it be pulled from the minutes?

Jonathan W: doesn't think it should be a place to amplify other groups' events. It should be for events that come out of our working groups. He thinks the working groups should be responsible to send out their own announcements instead of making it a list of three or four actions. Each event should get its own email.

Stu: Mailchimp gets filtered as "promotions" in some email platforms so people don't see it. Perhaps the Zoom list isn't?

Judith: agrees that it should be one event per email. This makes it easier to forward to other people because you're not forwarding them a full list but just the one thing that interests them.

Elaine M: Three or four events in an email per week is less invasive than 3 or 4 separate emails per week.

Donna G: Stand-alone events like the movie screening should get their own email, but campaigns and repetitive events should be on an email with others.

Mark H: There should be a simple Google form for people to add their information and the person creating the email should be able to go in and get the info so there's not a lot of emailing back-and-forth.

Jenny H: This is good news that we're concerned we might be sending too many action emails because we have too many events. It shouldn't only be only the events for the upcoming week because people need to be able to plan ahead. It would be helpful to have one rolling list of events.

Livvie M: Our website and calendar is really empty. We shouldn't dump more work on media/comms unless they want it. Maybe a link to the calendar would be a compromise for listing the future actions. It seems we're getting into details, when the discussion was whether we wanted to use this email list for event announcements.

Jennifer V: Yes, there seems to be consensus that we want to have an event email, and that we don't want a lot of new emails being sent each week. Does anyone want to be involved in the design of this new email? Elaine and Donna volunteered. A subgroup of interested people will work on this. Email Jennifer at jvandyck@rcn.com

There was discussion in the chat about VOCAL's "Guide to Your Week" emails - several people do read them every week - perhaps that can be a model.

New Actions

*Kill The Filibuster - Saturday, June 26, 11AM Grand Army Plaza Brooklyn (and Schumer's house). Jamie B: This is a proposal to bring the Kill the Filibuster banner and the photo signs that Robert designed to the farmers market on the 26th. The purpose is to keep the filibuster on people's minds. Yes, this is Pride weekend, but this should be early enough in the day for people to do other things. The action will start at the Greenmarket and then go to Schumer's building at 9 Prospect Park West. Pending approval, there will be a Facebook event posted tomorrow. **The floor voted to approve this action.**

*Endorsement of coalition action on Monday, June 28, at 5:30PM - 9 Prospect Park West (Schumer's house). Livvie M: there is a nationwide Indivisibles action that the Brooklyn Indivisibles has asked us to co-sponsor. **The floor voted to endorse this action.**

*Queer Liberation March - Jamie B: The march happens Sunday the 27th - gathering at Bryant Park, stepping off at 3:00, marching to Washington Square Park. Several RaR members are marshalling and several are marching. There is no rally planned.

Dana: ACT UP will be doing a health fair near Judson Church in conjunction with the end of the march.

Elizabeth L added two helpful links in the chat for those needing to make accessible plans for the QLM: <https://reclaimpridenyc.org/2021-bus-request>
<https://reclaimpridenyc.org/2021-wheelchair-request>

Finance Committee Report

Susan L: there is nothing to report. To make a donation, click here:
www.riseandresist.org/donate

Non Rise and Resist Announcements

Dana: ACT UP is putting together a coalition in support of the More Act to deschedule marijuana. They are planning an action at Schumer's apartment building on July 17th and a decrim forum at the LGBT Center on June 18th. (Dates speculative pending an ACT UP meeting tomorrow.) The action at Schumer's building is to pressure him to write a letter to Biden asking for an executive order to do what the More Act would do if it could ever pass Congress. Please keep this on your radar. More info to come.

Katrina: The Supportive Housing Tenants Association is still jelling, they've had their third meeting and started forming subcommittees and planning actions, in Albany and NYC. They meet monthly as a coalition and weekly in subcommittees. The focus of their work is on peer support and Know Your Rights actions. For more info, contact kat.corbell.19@gmail.com

RISE AND RESIST