

## Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition – 9.01.20

### Rise and Resist Contact Information:

- Website: [www.riseandresist.org](http://www.riseandresist.org)
- Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
- Twitter: [www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY](https://www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY)
- Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/](https://www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/)
- Instagram: [www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/](https://www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/)
- General email: [info@riseandresist.org](mailto:info@riseandresist.org)
- Press email: [media@riseandresist.org](mailto:media@riseandresist.org)
- Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)

**Facilitators** Stu & Paul **ScreenShare** Vivian **Notes** Jackie O. **ASL Signer** Elizabeth

participants: 41 folks

### REPORT BACKS

#### **No More Years action @ Central Park, August 27**

Robert: It was a good collaboration. Included a Land Acknowledgement. Celebratory. Poetic. There was one issue that arose: no Black Lives Matter banner among the several banners being displayed. Decided to make a “White Supremacy is Terrorism” banner (not pre-approved) though ended up not using the new banner during protest.

Livvie: Such a powerful action, with Robert’s reading of the ending of “Angels in America.”

John C.: The issue was a banner addressing racism (not only BLM), given the administration’s blatant use of racism. It was a beautiful action that would have been even stronger if racism were directly addressed. Since our outreach and education are key to what we do, let’s not add to confusion by conflating our “...Police State” banner with race issue.

Mary: As a white-majority group, it’s powerful when we resist white supremacy and support BLM. Encourage Actions and others developing broad-spectrum actions to keep that in mind.

Jay: Let’s absorb the cost of white supremacy and reimburse for the new banner.

Jenny: White supremacy and white nationalism are what people are unifying against, and need to be called out.

Alexis: Our anti-racism got decentered. Have we done any concerted RaR-led actions on our own re: anti-racism? It’s powerful and overdue to address this.

Jackie R.: For the creation of the new banner, people worked hard and well together. When it didn’t work out – apologies. We should have had the sixth [new] banner.

Dann: I think when the group wasn't received well, it kind of scared people off.

Virginia: Members of the immigration group think the immigration banner addresses racism. And we've wrestled with racism being central to immigration politics.

Stu: I was one who voted against it, and I see I was wrong. I'm sorry.

Cherie: It's important to distinguish between anti-black racism and anti-immigration ... we should have had the [new] banner there.

Jamie: Systemic racism is not seen by majority of people in the U.S. Trump/Pence denying that systemic racism exists – so our futures banners and props need to address that.

Robert: It was a wonderful action. And thanks to John for bringing up this issue with integrity.  
**VOTE PASSES to approve \$235 spent on the new banner**

### **Say Their Names action (weekly) @ 96th and Broadway, August 28**

Jenny: We used the new "White Supremacy is Terrorism" banner. Many people ended up at the action, including new folks, regular folks. Feeling like an important action. We have to keep saying their names, as this horror seems to continue with impunity.

### **UPCOMING ACTIONS**

#### **Climate Justice through Racial Justice action, September 20, 1 pm @ Columbus Circle**

Cherie: End of September is climate week, and a big focus on large marches, coinciding with UN conference. Coalition of many organizations—People's Climate Movement—is organizing this. Put date on your calendar!

**VOTE PASSES to endorse Climate Justice action**

#### **Say Their Names (weekly) – Friday, September 11, 5 pm @ 96<sup>th</sup> & Broadway**

#### **"Covid Behind Bars = Death" demonstration, Thursday, September 10, location & time TBA**

#### **March for the Dead / Fight for the Living**

Martin: Looking for feedback about 2 possible actions to follow-up on the August 21 March for the Dead from Barclay's to Foley Sq that got lots of local and international attention. Planning meeting tomorrow, Wed., Sept 3, about future actions. One possibility: Sept. 21, Trump may be in-person at the U.N. Second possibility: "Fox News is Killing Us" at Fox News HQs.

Discussion re: targets, strategy, props. Will take ideas to Actions.

Contact Martin at [coronavirusmarchnyc@gmail.com](mailto:coronavirusmarchnyc@gmail.com) if you want to be involved in planning.

## **POST OFFICE GROUP**

Virginia: Planning a poster/sticker campaign with social media component: “Enemies of the Post Office” series. Both in-person actions at the post office and online campaign to explain why these target people (Collins, McConnell, Duncan, DeJoy, etc) are attacking the post office.

Discussion: Maybe “Postal Service” or “USPS” instead of “Post Office” in title of action?

## **NON-RaR ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **ACT-UP coalition re: Ashes or quilt action**

Brandon Cuicchi (from ACT-UP): ACT-UP has been focused on COVID for awhile now. Thinking of reviving an ACT-UP Ashes action from the 1990s when ashes of loved ones who died of AIDS were brought to DC and dumped on White House lawn. Looking to bring together a coalition of groups to organize an Ashes action for COVID before the election—late Oct. or early Nov.

Dr. ??: Another idea is to revive AIDS quilt idea as COVID quilt. Quilters guilds interested in the idea. Would focus on making lap quilts. Possibly combine with the Ashes action?

Discussion: Some interest from RaR: We could help plan the action? Maybe a pre-action here in NYC? Move ideas to Actions or have a subgroup who pursues this?

### **School Workers Solidarity Campaign**

Michael: MORE-UFT has been planning School Workers Solidarity Campaign protests against unsafe school reopening in NYC. Protests were planned for later this week, but following today’s mayoral news conference delaying school opening until 9/21, MORE may be changing plans. Next campaign meeting is Thursday 9/3 at 7 pm online.

For more info email Michael at [mdelia4@gmail.com](mailto:mdelia4@gmail.com)

### **Housing Works Unionization Drive**

Brian Grady (from Housing Works): Requesting endorsement from RaR. Workers at Housing Works have conducted a 2-year campaign to unionize. HW leaders have responded with typical union-busting activities. Elections for the union were scheduled for March 2020, but NLRB postponed the elections due to COVID crisis. HW leaders now trying to cancel elections with excuse that workers in new shelter sites need to be included.

For more info see Instagram: @housingworksunion

Voice your support for union drive to Earl Ward at [eward@ecbalaw.com](mailto:eward@ecbalaw.com)

**VOTE PASSES to endorse HW workers holding vote re: unionizing**

### **Index for Mueller Report**

Peter Rooney (Editor): I have developed an index for the Mueller Report. Please circulate the index widely, including targeting congressional staff. Index at:

<https://www.muellerreportindex.net/>

**Housing Justice**

Katrina: Action being planned for Tuesday, Sept 15. Target: Carl Heastie (NYS Assembly Speaker). More info next week.

**### RISE AND RESIST ###**