

Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 4.14.2020

Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
 - Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
 - Twitter: www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/
 - Instagram: www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/
 - 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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Notes - Alexandra **Facilitators** - Livvie and Jamie **ASL Signer** - Elizabeth

The meeting started at 7:05 to give people time to holler and bang pots.

REPORT BACKS

Jamie: We took **Trump Lies, People Die banner** to the Morgue Truck at Lenox Hospital at 12th St and 7th Ave. , and at the AIDS Memorial.

- o We will discuss further locations at Actions Meeting:
- o The Tombs and another correctional facility are being considered.
- o Djeremy: Bushwick, Elmhurst, Ridgewood, Jackson Heights could be considered.
- o Goal is to amplify the messages of Free Them All and Let Them Go.
- o These are small affinity group actions, which need only 4 to 5 people to do them. Good to rotate different people through.
- o Jeremy: Could they be done outside of Manhattan, like Bushwick, Elmhurst, Ridgewood, Jackson Heights?
 - o This will be discussed in Actions.

Elke: **Created an Information hub in Google Docs. It lists all actions we are aware of led by different activist groups.**

- o Showed it to members
- o We can add items to this list; they are organized by themes; ask Elke for help if you need it, but her hands are full.
- o Donna: Some jail related actions come very quickly after they send out notice. The actions are very clear cut: do them tomorrow, or today.
- o Jamie: Suggested that RaR can develop a list of organizations that are interested. A RaR member could join, and could then spread the word quickly.
- o Categories, like "Elections" can be developed as events arise.

- o Link to information Hub:
https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/1_T92_aLSIVqA-7i9xEHmRGUN8XiNMkdOaZAwuwAVZfU/edit#gid=0

COMMS: if you are interested in joining Comms, contact Mary H: me@maryhawkins.com

Elka: #SolidarityWithPolishWomen

Banning sex ed and abortion. Women in Poland went out to march. In solidarity, make an image and hold it up at the end of the meeting. Or make a background screen and put it on your social media image

At the end of the meeting members held up signs they had created #I support Polish Women and Elka took a photo.

RAR Climate Action - digital actions for 50th Anniversary of first Earth Week

Stu: Three days of actions:

- 1) Climate Strikers
- 2) Divest - divestment and climate financing
- 3) Voters and voter registration
 - Watch as much of that livestream as you can.
 - During the livestream, promote issues on twitter, fb, and other social media.
 - The groups involved are developing a digital toolbox with images and times to bomb social media at the same time.
 - o We have a captive audience and a captive workforce.
 - We can develop these skills across actions.
 - The climate group is meeting Thursday, and will present the toolbox on Monday

RaR voted to endorse this action, and the development of the digital toolbox.

Coronavirus and climate change video

Stu and Mary: We are making a 30 second long video (Alex, Stu and Maria Gambale with Mary's support) We found three quotes from trump, Sean Hannity, and Rush Limbaugh which the video will use. Think of this as a trailer.

ERT

NY Renews letter sign on

Cherie: Letter of solidarity has been developed: the NYS budget is terrible; climate is intersectional; social justice is a part of our climate work; we need Medicaid, housing, and we need much more. ERT agreed to sign for RaR.

[The link will be sent to AW](#)

RaR voted to approve ERT's yes vote

A letter on Climate: **Stop the Money Pipeline** has written a letter to members of congress. Stop a big oil bailout and help ordinary people 200 orgs. have signed on.

- Healthcare workers first

- Feds must support people not ff industry
- Transition training for people to retool
- And:

The link will be sent to AW

Will be delivered to congress on Thursday.

RaR voted to support signing this letter.

Jennifer B. wants ideas from members about **city summer jobs program for teens which has recently been cancelled** . City provides summer jobs for 7500 teenagers. There is a lot of fighting between gov and mayor about closing schools. Summer program does not start until July. This closure affects many teens including underserved and homeless teenagers. This cancellation seems very premature. How do we protest this? It is a battle that is possible to win.

- This program is run by the **Department of Youth and Community Development**.
- If people want to work with Jennifer B, they should get in touch with her.
 - Jennifer: this could be a change.org project.

Questions:

- Ray: We should draft a letter with name and address of who we want to reach, and bring it to the floor. Ray offers to work with J
- Mark H: We need to understand the rationale behind this: rationale may be safety, but really about the budget. We need to do due diligence to understand what is behind this decision before we draft a letter.
- Jay: By far the vast majority working in the summer youth program are poor and homeless kids.
 - In our letter we should link this closure to the inequitable treatment given to different groups of people throughout this pandemic, where the focus has been on people with freedom, not challenges, people who have no resources to get by as middle class people do.
- Jennifer: Very appreciative of these ideas.
- Contact Jennifer at: rejennifer@gmail.com

Samaritan's Purse "hospital" in Central Park - today's Reclaim Pride press conference, RAR campaign with NYC City Council, and an additional social distancing protest in Central Park.

Ken K and Kellen:

Ken: Franklin Graham's "not for profit" organization violates several laws/basic principles and has been demonstrated to be unethical:

- separation of church and state.
- F Graham was paid \$620k last year.
- People have to sign "I love Jesus, and I hate the gays" (paraphrase that captures the intent and wording of the pledge.)
 - People have been turned down who applied who refused to sign.
- We propose a socially responsible action using Gilbert Bakers banner tomorrow outside the SP walls.

Kellen: At the RPC press conference today, there was a good amount of press, including local press.

- Famously Islamophobic.

Ken: We need to know who was in the room when the decision was made to allow SP to set up tents in Central Park. Head of Mt. Sinai is a gay man!

- Graham created a sermon on Easter Sunday which he is using as video propaganda.
- Jay: this needs to be pushed out more; some corporation gave SP \$500k to fund this propaganda, ((or in response to this propaganda.))

Ray: SP is anti-Semitic. To be forced to agree to claim Jesus Christ as your savior is anti-Semitic.

RPC (Reclaim Pride Coalition): press release today.

- SP issued a statement ahead of RPC press release. Naming Jerold Nadler and various other Democratic members of Congress.

Discussion of the affinity action... Gilbert Baker's STOP THE HATE banner...location.... Time and date...careful adherence to social distancing.

Suggested action: Reach out to Matthew McMorow: charged by City Hall with oversight responsibility of SP.

Heather: **Home laptop action opposing Samaritan's Purse.** City Council to pass a resolution at their April 27 meeting. This will be a petition for organizations to sign. Here is the link:

<http://tiny.cc/StoptheHate>

Further Discussion:

- o Stu: SP members are filming and asking people their opinions of SP.
- o Alexandra: Activist Terri Wilder has been birddogging these interviewers and calling them out. An idea for socially distant birddogging for other actions.
- o Sandy there needs to be a flyer to bring the word out. Jay: We are concerned about social distance problems with flyering.
- o When you are dying, they pray with you.
- o Ken spoke to Cory Johnson's aide and was told no one is being discriminated against.
- o Lynn: Deblasio and Nadler wrote a letter today. This is revealing of who SP is.
- o Rick: 51 people in the tents now. These are not Covid patients. We should not make the argument that don't want the beds.
- o Djeremy: Are we distracting ourselves? Trump has just stopped all funding for the World Health Organization. We need to keep the focus on black and brown people.
- o Reply: This is about SP getting money.

RaR voted to approve these action in response to Samaritan's Purse..

Cosecha action Free Them All on April 24 3pm to 6pm, Union Square.

Donna: This action directed against the detention of immigrants in jails is being organized by Cosecha and other groups.

- o Drive, bike, walk. In order to participate: fill out form on FB page.
- o Discussion of why this is directed at the governor. He has contracts with the Fed government. There are other states that have broken contracts with jails that are holding immigrants in detention.
- o Jamie: We could hold some of our banners. "US Immigration Policy is a crime". And we can use our black and white paper signs. We would need to have some marshals to keep social distance.

- o https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScn0uL2aJyHYGbG4wRDikurAcwSgMqWS D5RsK8xoXQbgG0duA/viewform?fbclid=IwAR3_grH0WscQNYK68jAFuBZ61IF8h3HmluAsjMUmpCPs5V0zC9rn-Xu6pjY

RaR voted to endorse this action.

- o Several people volunteered to walk, bike and drive for this action.

Update on NY State budget and what progressive activists are doing.

Mark H. Discussed State budget process and what came out.

- o Process is not fully over.
- o The governor has been given the right to make budget adjustments.
 - o We will have opportunities to comment, intervene at the end of April, end of June and end of December.
 - o Cuomo's rationalization is that many taxes are not coming in as projected.
- o Real action is the federal level and next big Covid response package. A whole lot of money will go to states and cities for economic relief.
 - o The money so far has been sprinkled about regardless of pandemic numbers. A lot of money went to red states with little Covid.
 - o
 - o Studies are projecting serious economic downturn that will exceed 2008, maybe 1980's. The healthcare group has been tracking this because a public health crisis is causing this economic downturn.
- o Mark called for a workgroup to think about this and consider RaR action.
 - o RaR.healthcare@gmail.com
- o Congress' return is postponed till after early May. The Dems are hot to trot about next Covid response bill, the "CARES Act"
 - o Next bill will address the need in impacted cities. 1/2 trillion needed. People should approach Mark if interested at RaR.healthcare@gmail.com.

Stu: this is really important as we may face a great depression

ELECTIONS COMMITTEE

Cherie: **Great news in Wisconsin.**

- o Jill Karofsky, Dem challenger won a seat on Wisconsin's State Supreme Court against Republican incumbent. Last time this happened was 1967.

<https://www.nytimes.com/2020/04/13/us/politics/wisconsin-primary-results.html>

- o The Elections Committee met with two people at a high level organizing in Wisconsin. There is a congressional election in mid May.
 - o Elections wants to work with one state candidate in Wisconsin. We are going to sign onto phone banking to get absentee ballots.
 - o Republicans are working hard on voter suppression.
 - o Dems did a great job getting absentee ballots to people that was what won the election.
- o **Training 5 pm this Friday 4/17 to train people in this phone banking tool** to help Wisconsin people to get their ballot so that they cannot be suppressed.
 - o We are not working advocating a particular candidate.

- **At 5:30 pm, Friday 4/17, there will be training for a text banking tool with PA voters.** These are two different activities.

Reach out to Elections Committee to sign on: rar.elections@gmail.com

- in Covid, people are delighted to get calls. There is little persuasion involved. You can reach people at home at a time when they want to talk with you.
- The rules kept being changed about deadlines/procedures etc. so people are eager for help.
- If people sign up for May 12 primary, this will automatically sign them up to vote in November.

Sandy: **Reclaim Our Vote** update.

- Sandy received 1600 names. And 100% have been requested. 16 RaR members have committed to filling out 850 postcards.

Sandy has more names coming up in GA after NC, so contact her: slradoff@gmail.com

NON RISE AND RESIST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sandy: one day webcast at CUNY: **Rethinking Immigration: Visions for 2021**

Online, May 1 from 10 AM to 9 pm. You can sign on to parts of it.

<https://slucuny.swoogo.com/rethinkingimmigration/483440>

Donna: asked for connections to Brad Landers. Heather and Livvie had ideas.

Stu: People's stimulus checks have come in. Undocumented immigrants have been cut out of receiving checks. Cosecha has set up a pledge drive. if you want to donate some money to undocumented immigrants, contact Stu. Waldman@mikaya.com

Ann R: **Poor People's Campaign has put together a petition of demands re Covid Stimulus money:**

<https://sign.moveon.org/petitions/this-pandemic-demands-a-systemic-response-an-urgent-message-from-the-poor-people-s-campaign>

Ann R: **To support Healthcare workers needing PPE and related issues this Thursday 4/16/20:**

<https://facebook.com/events/s/medicare-for-all-now-and-we-me/2803184056468925/?ti=icl>

Lynn H: We go to Port Authority every year to give people commuting in from Eastern PA absentee ballot requests. If interested, contact Lynn: lynkh.mail@gmail.com

RISE AND RESIST