

## Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 10.13.2020

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### 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)
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  - Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)
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**Facilitators:** Jamie and Paul **Notes:** Sandy

### REPORT BACKS

#### **Abolish ICE: Thursday, October 8 at Manhattan Bridge Plaza**

It was a great action. The signs were fabulous. A few banners too. People in the cars were very expressive. A lot of NYPD were there when we got there. One of the white shirts came over when opening the banner; sorry it's time to go. Not one person of color; if BLM would that apology be offered? Felt it was nice white people; so, NYPD doesn't have to stay; felt like a racial issue. Because our event was called abolish ICE, they likely got us confused with the abolitionist group. They realized it was RaR and not the other group so they backed off. We asked if they would stand in the background to take pictures and they refused. Overall, we felt that this issue (Immigration) is more important than ever because so many others have forgotten about it.

#### **Say Their Names: Friday, October 9 at 96<sup>th</sup> and Broadway**

This Friday we had a mic which was good for saying names and taking turns. The names reverberated. We have to just keep on saying their names. Next one is at 96th and Broadway at 5pm this Friday, October 16. We need to start planning for winter and light. Handed out 120 lists of names. Will bring 150 this week. It's becoming a thing.

#### **Beds Not body Bags: Friday, October 9th at Diversity Plaza, Queens**

This was the second one about the hospital situation in Queens. Held signs and handed out leaflets. The crowds were receptive. It turned into a wonderful, neighborhood thing. Very homey. Didn't feel like we were coming from outside the neighborhood. A Community organizer gave a speech. Felt we fit in; not alien. The organizer who spoke was the original one who organized it at diversity plaza in the first place. Another very eloquent organizer spoke about the people who died. People were appreciative at being remembered and seen and noticed. Very little opposition or pushback. Had 250 leaflets. The recognition of this problem was important. There was some local media there covering the action.

The Healthcare Action Committee is meeting to think about what to do next. Will be waiting until after Election Day but looking at Corona Plaza. There's an open square, farmer's market. Raise the visibility out in the community. Digressed from pandemic into gentrification. Might be another issue to explore in the future.

## **UPCOMING ACTIONS**

### **EVERY VOTE COUNTS / COUNT EVERY VOTE: Thursday, October 15 at Staten Island Ferry Terminal, Manhattan Side**

Actions committee made a large banner—Every Vote Counts/Count Every Vote. Big plaza where we can stand and hold the banner. Handouts were available with a site for early voting. The action reminds them that every vote counts; encourages in-person voting if they can and do it early. Gets them thinking about how important it is that every vote get counted. First time for this banner; don't know if it will be viewed as an anti-Trump banner or viewed as a way to combat voter suppression. Could get some counter protestors. There was a suggestion to do it in other neighborhoods. Would need about 5 people and a plan to hand the banner off.

**March for the Dead: Sunday, October 18, Virtual Action**—All day action starting at 10 am Sunday #MyCOVIDstory—a virtual march for the dead. Encompassing action where people impacted by COVID can tell their stories. At 5 pm, a short program using some of the content, speakers etc. Want it to become a trend on social media and shared more widely.

### **COUNT EVERY VOTE and VOTE HIM OUT: Thursday October 22 at noon, NBC Studios in Rockefeller Center**

Another banner action—more ambitious—planning on speakers from coalition partners—dealing with systemic racism, jobs, hunger, climate. Reaching out for speakers to speak for 3 to 5 minutes. Thinking about a procession. FB event and doing a poster party to create some backup posters—virtual or outdoors. A couple of banners—no more years; every vote counts / count every vote. Uncertain about turnout because it's at noon. Addison may do an Instagram event. Someone adept at twitter to put it out on twitter. Given interest, maybe posters instead of banners. The primary audience is media for this event. We're working on a press release.

**Report back on the Protect the Vote Coalition** and what we want to do leading up to the election

Had a couple of meetings with Justin Hendricks, the NY chapter for Protect the Vote. The National coalition is trying to encourage groups in different places to demonstrate at the same time on the same day. If certain triggers happen, it would form the basis of going out; e.g. negating the election; denying the results. Mostly Indivisible groups will be monitoring election night and next day. Lots of optimism that it will be a landslide blowout; but won't know results for a day or more. The fear is that DT will only look at in person voting on election night and that he will claim victory. The belief is that if he tries to claim victory we will have to go out into the street—calling it for 5pm. The logistics are not completely agreed upon yet. Small logistics team—2 from RaR on the team. RaR is well implanted in the group. Goal: extremely peaceful but angry procession; no rally; massive # of people on short, tight marches—count every vote and protect the results. The hard thing will be to get the word out. Indivisibles are a particular subset; hard to get beyond that. Reaching out to other groups; slow process. Encouraging other outreach. This coalition is possibly an ongoing effort (if DT doesn't concede). Group is committed to organizing a series of demonstrations if necessary.

### **More on phone banking/post carding and Philadelphia GOTV**

Philly has early voting where you fill out your mail in ballot beforehand and go to 1 of 17 locations to drop it off. Philly is really important. Encouraging going to Philly; \$70 a night Holiday Inn. Important time is now. Until Oct. 23 you can vote early but you can register at the same time. For Philadelphia information go to [seedthevote.org](http://seedthevote.org)

### **Discussion about taking a banner to Philadelphia**

Philly has a lot of great, iconic sites for pictures with the Trump Lies People Die banner. A bunch of people will be down there for a few days and want to take this banner out to a few iconic sites and take some pictures. Want to ask permission. Banner will be back by Oct. 19.

**Vote was affirmative giving Leon permission to take the banner to Philly.**

### **Non-Rise and Resist announcements**

#### **Women's March: Saturday, October 17, 11 am in Washington Square Park**

FB event to go with it—All the information is on a website. The National event is happening in DC; call was made to have local events. 100's of events happening across the country; 3 in NY. <https://womensmarch.com/>

#### **Call to train as a poll worker to address shortage**

There is a shortage of poll workers in NYC; recruiting people to get trained. Short term Federal job. Protective gear is provided and social distancing is maintained.

<https://vote.nyc/page/poll-worker-positions>

#### **Mass March to defund the NYPD, Saturday, October 17, 2 to 8 pm EST, Washington Sq Park**

Tax the Rich and stop the layoffs! Democracy Dies in a Police State banner would be a good fit with this action. Have photos of police attacking demonstrators across the country.

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