

## Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 9.15.2020

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### Rise and Resist Contact Information

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

### REPORTBACKS

#### **Immigration Vigil: Thursday, Sept. 10**

Jamie: Took place on the Plaza of Queensborough bridge. Stood in two places. Ton of traffic. Ton of police officers stayed out of the way when they saw what we were doing. Lots of horns honking. Liked this bridge better than others because of good places to stand but next time want an art director so we could find a better configuration. Thurs. Sept. 24 will be the next Immigration Action.

#### **Say Their Names: Friday, Sept. 11**

Jennie: 96th and Broadway by the clock, we're meeting. We'll be there this Friday. The list is growing.

#### **NO MORE YEARS: Saturday, Sept. 12**

Jackie Rudin: Great turnout. Wash Square Park—beautiful day. Difficult space because a lot is going on. People milling around and not necessarily paying attention to us but we got great pictures. Not much engagement from the crowd, though. Maybe this action should be more confrontational. Need to fight back vs. bearing witness. Need a space with an overhang to get a better view. Acoustics are not great. Should have a flyer with some action people could take. GOTV, phone banking, postcards, texting etc.

#### **Attica is Now1: Sunday, Sept. 13**

Donna: In Foley Square last Sunday. Five from RaR attended. Heard from men who were there in 1971. Also, heard from people who have loved ones in prison now. Hearing from an 11-year-old whose father was in prison was particularly touching.

#### **Post Office Report Back**

Robert C.: Starting a social media campaign on Monday—Enemies of the post office—5 are

Senators and others are Barr, Trump, Mnuchin, Dunkin, and DeJoy, head of the post office. Want a call to action—one is do you have a voting plan and another is how to get involved in govt. People's Action was the most powerful one we found. Ella has created a great campaign to be launched on Monday on social media. Will be on RaR twitter, FB, and Instagram.

### **Extinction Rebellion Action**

Leon: Because there was little time to scout the route ahead of time, the march wasn't as well laid out as it might have been. This was because it changed from a CD to a march one day before. Police presence was more than double the people in the march closed Wash Sq park area. They have a group of people who are to calm down incidents/de-escalate. They get themselves very centered beforehand. They handle counter-protests really well. They use bike marshals. They stopped and made some speeches which were successful. We could learn some things from Xr. They had about 200 people, beautiful props. The scouting was not well-done so there were delays. Stoppage challenged the police.

### **UPCOMING ACTIONS**

#### **Democracy Dies in a Police State—Sept. 17 at 5 pm**

Stu: Hopefully, the first of many. Looks back on what happened in the past few months with BLM—police riots where people were pulled, dragged etc. Where the police inflicted unnecessary violence on non-violent protesters. Have photos. Calling on DeBlasio to take charge but calling out the entire country. Where police crush dissent with force is the target. NY is particularly egregious. Mayor who does not walk the talk. The East side of City Hall is a meeting place. It's on FB. Expect a lot of police. Chanting, speeches with bull horn. This is an important topic. Starts with Trump and it's spreading all over the country. The FB post is very visceral and they wanted it shared widely. Have signs that come down on DeBlasio. He always tries to duck out and we are at City Hall because DeBlasio needs to take responsibility. DB will be called out.

### **NEW ACTIONS**

#### **IF Trump comes to Speak at the UN General Assembly—Sept. 22**

Jamie: This visit got some press in July, a bit in August, but it has been very quiet lately. This week NPR mentioned he is coming in person to speak but they may want to downplay it. Not clear if he is going to show up but we want something planned and ready to go. Usually he flies into a heliport in lower Manhattan. There's a good place we can stand near the heliport with signs. We have gotten him there before but.....worth having something ready.

Want to go with signs. Series of 20 X30—each piece had a letter. Go Away loser and on the other side said "Impeach". NO MORE YEARS as one message and for the flip side it could be IN OUT, DETHRONE TRUMP. THERE ARE 13 LETTERS IN NO MORE YEARS—NEED 13 PEOPLE PLUS SPARES PLUS ART DIR, PHOTOGRAPHERS, Overall, need at least 20 people Monday night through Tuesday morning.

Want permission to go forward so we can make the props. Will get the Actions Committee to paint them. This signage is better than the No More Years banner. Need approval to do the

action. Want to spend some \$ to get foam core boards and paint.

Can't pinpoint the time yet. Could be 8 am on Tuesday. Will need to signal and email to figure it out. Might wait 2 to 3 Hours. Prop date will be Saturday.

**Vote on approving this RaR action: PASSED ALMOST UNANIMOUSLY**

#### **ENDORsing OTHER ACTIONS**

##### **VOCAL-COVID ACTION at Trump Tower—Sept. 17**

Donna: 1 pm—two demonstrations in one day. Trump Tower vigil for 200K people who have died and condemnation of Trump. Wants endorsement and attend.

**Endorsement voted on. — ACTION IS ENDORSED.**

##### **NYCC Action at Blackrock—Sept. 17 At 1 pm**

Livvie: Double hitter—passionate about climate and immigration. Blackrock is destructive investor in fossil fuels and also Palantir which is selling info to ICE about the undocumented. Palantir has a public offering next week and they need to look good. This action is meant to make Palantir look bad. 45 E. 51st St. Huge chalk word outlines on the sidewalk to be done beforehand. Petitions will be delivered to BlackRock. Will be live streamed.

**Endorsement vote — ACTION IS ENDORSED.**

##### **March for Climate Justice Through Racial Justice—Sept. 20**

Livvie: Another climate action on Sept. 20—already approved—climate justice action March for Climate Justice Through Racial Justice. Focus is on Racial Justice but it's sponsored by climate groups.

**Need approval for \$228 of banner money — MONEY IS APPROVED.**

##### **Decolonize the DOW—Sept. 18**

Alexandra: very powerful posters about forcing teachers to go into schools where there's no PPE, they are filthy, special ed kids' schools are the worst.

##### **March for the Dead and the Living—Sept. 20**

Ken: Already endorsed this.

This coming Sunday on Sept. 20. FB event. Meeting at duck pond near CPS at 6:45 pm. Wear white. Bring stories, anger, sadness-short march to Trump Tower. Emphasis is the coming together—right to feel abandoned, to feel the dead have been forgotten. We will sing. Will remember the dead. Then a short walk to Trump Tower and will read names. Email [coronavirusmarchnyc@gmail.com](mailto:coronavirusmarchnyc@gmail.com) if you want to read 100 names. Need marshals for this event. 7:30 start a short march and then read the names. May take a lane of traffic; may take the sidewalk, depends on how many. Welcoming all voices.

##### **Discussion of what we can / should do if there is no clear outcome of the election on Nov. 4**

Jamie Introduction: Trump cannot declare victory by himself

The election can't be called until every vote is tallied. Two links—waging non-violence; choose democracy—talks about pressuring gov't to count every vote. Focus on some things we can do ahead of the Election.

There were a variety of themes that were mentioned but all agreed that we had to hit the streets if Trump does not respect the democratic process after the election and we need to do it in large numbers.

Others mentioned coalitions and that there are many other groups out there planning similar events. The feeling was that we should be in agreement about what we, as RaR, want to do before we enter into coalitions with others.

Several mentioned the importance of holding the media accountable for telling a narrative that supports democracy and not just focus on getting ratings and entertainment.

A few acknowledged that it is highly unlikely we'll know the result on Election Night and that expectation should get set as far ahead of the election as possible. One person mentioned that it would be good to know which states count their absentee ballots ahead of election day and, if those results, could be available, they could give us a sense for how the election results would ultimately go. Democrats, as everyone knew, are many times more likely to sign up to vote by mail or request an absentee ballot.

Some felt we should consider holding back and let the MAGA folks go crazy. This could make huge peaceful demonstrations on our part more effective.

Some other suggestions and comments included:

--Having a VOTE banner

--Prepare for a long, ugly slog

--If a Biden win is clear but Trump ignores, trips to DC and the Whitehouse may be necessary

--Important to pay attention to the damage Trump can do between November 3 and January 20

--We should have direct action workshops to prepare lots of people to get into the streets

Many talked about the need to be united and together, to be kind to one another and care for each other during what will likely be a difficult time.

## **Finance**

Sue—net worth \$20,300, a decrease of \$100.

## **Non-Rise and Resist Announcements**

Brian Grady—**Housing Works Union effort**—ongoing action in Park Slope. Housing works reopened South slope thrift shop as an all-volunteer operation with the exception of the manager. This is an effort to undermine the union. We have been picketing that location since Sat. Have successfully turned away volunteers. They have reduced hours to being only open 5 days a week vs. 7 days a week. If in the area, join the picket. Will be having a larger speak out on Saturday. Shop is open 11 am to 6 pm. Thurs, Fri, Sat. It is located at 424 7th Ave in Park

Slope. Article in Gay City News will be posted in the chat.

Katrina—Next Tues. **Coalition for the Homeless**, zoom meetings; digital storytelling workshop. Tuesday at 4 pm. Week from tomorrow/Weds—online memorial for homeless people who died because of COVID.

Donna-Heads up on a demonstration on Oct. 7 at 4:30 pm marking the **19<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the U.S. attack on Afghanistan**. It will take place at the Manhattan Bridget Plaza (Manhattan side0. It is organized by the War Resisters League NYC.

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