

## Rise and Resist General Meeting 2.11.2020

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### Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: [www.riseandresist.org](http://www.riseandresist.org)
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  - Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm at the [People's Forum](#), 320 W 37th St, New York, NY 10018
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**Notes** - Alexandra **Facilitators** - Jay and Livvie

### REPORT BACKS

#### 2/5 Trump's Acquittal Action –Columbus Circle

Jamie and Jon W.: Originally planned on 200 people; then Justin Hendrix of Move On joined in and several thousands came.

There were many unexpected events, and different styles between coordinators, but it was very successful. Originally planned for the Circle itself; police quickly shut down the Circle, pushing the activists and general marchers to the south east side of Columbus Circle.

Two traffic arteries into Columbus Circle were blocked off. 24 people were willing to be arrested, but most backed off the street at the third police warning, which were given very very fast. However, the police picked off Karin Schall by herself for arrest. When Karin was detained, Alexis, Mayellen, Jamie, Jenny H, Ann S, Richard P, and John Grauwiler jumped back in for solidarity, and were arrested too. Jennifer Bartlett tried hard to get arrested, and was refused. This act of solidarity was particularly necessary for people who would be held in women's cell, so that Karin would not be held alone. Huge number of police with their motorcycles. Close to 1000 people marched, maybe more. RaR and the NYC action and the march had very high media visibility.

We had the roadway for 5 minutes. There was a scrum. It was hard to do this at night; police scooters were out, and at one point rammed through a netting barrier activists had stretched across the street. However, it was ultimately safe and there was strong solidarity.

Many marshals were not aware of the arrests because the rally was very big, and they were with the other part of it. There was some confusion about where the march was heading; marshals did their best to inform people. There was discussion about whether

poles, which the Trump trolls use to wave their flags, are permitted. It seems to be a matter of police discretion, and RaR members have different perspectives on this.

Discussion of how much work it was marshalling, and that more marshals were needed. Goal to get the demo in the street, which did not happen. NYPL was a good stopping point. Some confusion between directives between different groups. This had to do with the late notice about when the senate vote would be.

There was discussion of whether RaR members should warn cops about particular dangers perpetrated by the trolls, or even ask them to intervene. Jamie felt strongly that it is problematic to ask police to take poles away or to intervene in other ways. It creates a false sense of alliance, and may limit RaR's ability to do things it wants to do in future.

Special thanks were given to support: Eve and Cherie, and to banner makers and sign makers.

What was learned: communication could be better between Justin of Move On and RaR.

This was a huge photo opp.

**Saturday, Feb 8: Chase Bank branch protest pop-up;**

Paul and Livvie: small gathering on a very cold day.

Some changes in signage planned for next action:

**Saturday, Feb 15 at noon at 2438 Broadway at 90<sup>th</sup>**

**Tuesday, Feb 25 7am to 8 am: JP Morgan Chase Investors' Day Protest: next demo 383 Madison Ave., NYC**

**UPCOMING ACTIONS**

Jay: **Resurrect The Presidency has been cancelled;**

people stretched too thin, the time is not right.

**Shooting of Eric Diaz-Cruz by ICE agents in Brooklyn, demonstration outside Maimonides Hospital**

Andy: confusing story; ICE shot someone in the face who had tried to assist someone being detained by ICE. He was taken to hospital; the person that was detained was taken to the hospital. There was fear that he would be deported before he was able to talk about what happened. A call for action was sent out: Witness had been tased. People showed up for two days. Goal was 1) to bear witness: to watch, record and report back. 2) Support the families involved. 3) Bring media attention to the story. 2<sup>nd</sup> day we were there, we found that ICE had taken custody of this man. Activists tried to block ICE van, totally unsuccessful. ICE does not seem to have jurisdiction to arrest protesters. Police were varyingly cooperative with ICE. NYPD put up barricades but did not block people when they went in the road or attempting to block vans.

Man was taken to Hudson County Detention Center in NJ, and there was an action in downtown Manhattan (Union Square)

A movement is growing to prevent ICE from entering hospitals. In this case, the police had a warrant. Plan: increase Cop Watch. Encourage NYC agencies not to cooperate with ICE. The person detained by ICE had gotten a traffic ticket and was flagged because of this low-level action. We are seeing this pattern.

Trump is speaking openly about conducting war on sanctuary cities. We are watching this closely. Police NY Benevolent Association is in war on DeBlasio, but this does not seem to be related. We watched to see about cooperation between police and ICE. This would raise red flags. The City Council is inquiring: what the hell happened? This is positive. The first night we had a press conference, there was one woman yelling pro-ICE slogans. Informal marshals pushed her back. Unarmed man was shot by officers who were wearing no body cameras. Recent article in NYT was very inadequately framed. This should not have been some general article about sanctuary cities. There was no reporting about the shooting. Nurses' Union, and Doctors Union, 1199 were there, good showing.

Question: How can RaR be more useful? The more people we have the more we can follow our 4 agendas.

How many people are needed to block a van? Andy: More than we had, but police were playing less of a role than they could have. They seem to have reduced their cooperation with ICE since Ravi Ragbir scandal.

### **Vigil Thursday 2/13 at 5:30PM in The Oculus**

Donna – very timely and important. Signage needed to recognize that ICE shot a man in the face point blank.

### **Actions Meeting: Weds 2/12/20 at 6:30 242 west 38<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> floor**

**Election Committee** – is alive and well! What we are working on and how to get involved.

Livvie: There will be **Elections meetings every other week starting 2/18 at Ripley Grier Studios: 520 8<sup>th</sup> Ave.**

There will be **postcarding** on alternate weeks.

**Letter to Liz Krueger: tax the ultra-rich.** Pressure Albany. From the Budget Justice Coalition. Medicare, Medicaid cuts planned.

**RaR voted to endorse this letter.**

**Special Elections in PA 3/17: Red to Blue in Brooklyn will be travelling to PA every weekend.** Howie Hayes, a union plumber, is the Democratic candidate  
Zoom call this Thursday 2/13 at 7 to discuss. Sign up on Livvie's list.

4/3/20 is the NYS deadline for Voter Registration for primaries. Make the Road and Water for Grassroots are working on this. Goal is to develop a Democratic super majority in thNY Statehouse.

- There is also a lot of push back in Albany against rent reform.

### **Feb 20 Budget Justice Town Hall 6:30 to 8.**

#### **Annual Board of Directors meeting:**

Jon W: 5 to 7 people generally

We need to schedule the meeting;

Idea proposed having the annual meeting at 6 pm prior to the general meeting. Anyone from RaR can attend. More members needed. Last meeting Jan 19 2019, and that one should have been in October.

**Alexandra will request a 6 pm time in late February or early March from TPF.**

## **FACILITATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Upcoming events at The People's Forum**

Alexandra 4 session silk screening workshop starting on Saturday 2/15

**Malcolm X: The man versus the myth: examination of a revolutionary life.**

Tuesday Feb 18 at 6:30

## **NEW ACTIONS**

Sandy: **2/25 Investors Day at Chase Headquarters: 383 Madison Avenue. 7 to 8 am.**

Asset managers manage \$90 trillion worth of assets, of which Chase manages \$190 billion. Shame them. No vague action planned. Banners, signs, chanting. "Yes its early in the morning but for the planet it is about to be too late." We will have signs identifying all the asset managers: the logos. Working in coalition at 350.org, Extinction Rebellion

**Rise and Resist voted to sponsor this event.**

Shall we put aside time next week to **talk about "Direct Action post Impeachment"?** What should be our focus between now and June. Shift from Trump the man to the policies. 30 to 40 minute discussion, not about the candidates or the democratic party.

**Rise and Resist voted to have this discussion.**

### **GAG Valentine's Day (2/14) action in NYC 5:30 pm Trump Tower**

Maryellen: GAG typically has a Bloody Valentine gathering, usually in Washington DC. Last year Parkland was happening. We are considering people's exhaustion and moved action to NYC. He really could shoot someone on 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. and get away with it. 4000 people have been shot and killed in various gun related deaths since Jan 1.

**RaR voted to endorse this action.**

Discussion of who could attend, and marshal.

Participation in **Close The Camps demo 2/16 Sunday 3pm to 6 pm at NYPL/42nd St.**

Jamie: there has typically been a small RaR contingent.

## **Finance**

Rob: \$15,000, decrease of \$200 from last week. And \$168 collected tonight.

## **NON RISE AND RESIST EVENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **Katrina Weds Feb 26 at noon, Albany Housing support rally**

Many advocates are supporting it but not RaR.

The Assembly is supporting it but Cuomo has not funded it.

Funding for housing for people at the bottom, so that people upstate are not just shipped to NYC. [www.sayyestohss.org](http://www.sayyestohss.org)

### **Maryellen: Works with **Justice in Education Columbia University Center for Justice: Thursday March 5 evening through Sunday March 8** **Beyond the bars. Free of charge****

Incarceration has become a primary tool of governance and social control

### RISE AND RESIST ###