

## **RISE AND RESIST GENERAL MEETING MINUTES**

### **February 5, 2019**

Facilitators: Jennifer & Jamie

Minutes: Nilber

Slides: Dann

Greeter: Cheryl

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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)
  - 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 at the [People's Forum](#), 320 W 37th St, New York, NY 10018
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## **REPORT BACKS**

### **Elevator Action Group**

EAG Actions this week received major mainstream media attention.

#### [Malaysia Goodson Vigil and Press Conference for Subway Accessibility In Honor of Malaysia Goodson's Memory](#)

Wed 1/30/2019

@7th Avenue Station - 7th Avenue and W 53rd St

The 7th Ave Station is inaccessible to Riders with disabilities and mobility challenges (MTA System is currently 75% Inaccessible)

Advocates and individuals in wheelchairs formed a parade along 7th Avenue, laying flowers along the street.

#### [Transit Center Press Conference](#)

Presentation and Map Release of the Transit Center's [Access2024 Plan](#)

MTA's [Fast Forward Plan](#) includes 50 Stations that will be made accessible to all Riders

The Transit Center presented a proposal determining the 50 stations that should receive the required enhancements within the next 5 Years. It was emphatically stated this would only be the beginning to make the entire MTA Subway System fully accessible.

In attendance were advocates/organizations including CIDNY, Rise and Resist, politicians from the City Council including Helen Rosenthal, Corey Johnson, and Ydanis Rodriguez who made a poignant and incisive statement about needing to vocalize mission and message beyond the Allies in attendance - '[We're] Always speaking to the same people'

#### *Discussion & Questions*

Miriam: Brought attention to DeBlasio's Vision Zero Campaign and current city traffic shortcomings - Need to modify Traffic Lights Signaling (too fast/too slow)

#### *Related Non RaR Upcoming Actions*

CIDNY (Disability Justice Group) - NYS Advocacy Albany Trip on Monday 2/11/19

Buses Leave at 7AM - Return at 7PM

May be advocating with State Representatives

### **Action Group - Arrest Trump Concurrent Banner and Street Actions**

RaR executed [three simultaneous actions](#) at Grand Central Terminal and Trump Tower on Tuesday 2/5/19 at 4PM.

1. Dan: Banner Drop over Grand Central Viaduct. Banner displayed for 35 min to vehicular and pedestrian traffic
2. [Arrest Trump Floating Banner](#) tied to Balloons were released inside Grand Central's Main Concourse. Created remarkable spectacle over the crowds and for sharing on social media. Rick provided engineering for the floating banner (Prior two test runs unsuccessful). Balloons may be airborne for ~3 Days with NYPD & MTA Police unable to take it down.
  - a. RaR members suggested additional similar future actions for ongoing publicity
  - b. Important Note: No one should release photos of RaR members in act of undertaking sanctionable actions.
3. Jonathan: Trump Tower Action incorporating Banner, Signs and Moving Picket. Banner visible at multiple angles. Action included significant media presence with RaR members interviewed. Passersby were engaged and joined the action. Leaflets were distributed and the public was receptive.

#### *Discussion & Questions*

Mel: What would be considered a more effective action: Hanging Banner on Viaduct or Floating Banner in Grand Central?

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## **FACILITATION ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Next Week's Meeting Location: [People's Forum](#), 320 W 37th St, New York, NY 10018  
Rent Collection

### **Facilitation Training Announcement**

Presented by Jennifer Van Dyke  
When: Saturday, March 2, 2019.  
Where and Time: TBD

Training will be provided on leading RaR Meetings, Also call for those interested in learning about how RaR meetings are run. Chance for participants to voice opinions on improving and changing RaR meetings

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### **READ & RESIST (RaR Reading Group)**

Presented by Andy Ratto  
Book: This Changes Everything: Capitalism vs. The Climate by Naomi Klein  
When: Sunday, March 3, 2019 at 11 AM – 1 PM  
Where: The People's Forum

Call for Participants - Please Subscribe to [Facebook Event](#) and [Mailing List](#)

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## **NEW & FUTURE ACTIONS**

### **#PfizerGreed Kills Public Rally**

**Social Safety Healthcare Group** (Representative: Mark) coordinating with NYC DSA (Representative: Jen James) brought forward proposed joint action with NYC DSA and associated with the Campaign of New York Health's Direct Action Group:

When: Sunday, March 3 at 11 am  
Where: Corner of 42nd St. and 2nd ave.

NYC DSA Action Mission Statement:

'Pharmaceutical executives who are paid millions of dollars – \$26.5 million (and rising) in the

case of Pfizer CEO Ian Read – while drug prices are unaffordable for the people that need them. This is immoral and cannot continue. We will rally to make it clear that by passing single-payer legislation, such as the New York Health Act and the federal "Improved Medicare for All" bills, we can curb this unethical drug price gouging that leads to avoidable death and suffering.'

Campaign chose to target Pfizer because of the prominent location of its HQ (next to GCT). Want to draw attention to opponents of healthcare reform in NYS.

No permit has been applied for. Action will include affinity group actions with arrest risk.

NYC DSA is also hosting a direct action training with Alexis Danzig and Leslie Kauffman. The training will go over the principals of DA and how to plan an effective action.:

### **Direct Action Training for Pfizer Action**

When: Sunday, February 24th from 10:30am-4:30 PM

[RSVP Here](#)

#### *Discussion & Questions*

- Mel: Will there be any future actions? Currently campaign doesn't have capacity to pursue further DA. This will be the last action until end of the legislative session.

Stuart: What is the Main Message of DA? Slogan is 'Pfizer Greed Kills'.

#### *Action Asks:*

- RaR tasked to Co-Sponsor Action (Includes full RaR Buy-in: Marshalling, Decision-making, Finance)
- Donation Ask: DSA has already Fundraised \$200. (Donations for actions will be doubled 1to1 by anonymous donor)
- Ask for RaR Member participation
- **Straw Poll: Endorsement vs Sponsor. Sponsorship Approved**

For more information:

Jen James - NYC DSA

[jlaureljames@gmail.com](mailto:jlaureljames@gmail.com)

732-485-9143

### **[Asylum is Not Crime](#) - Ongoing Weekly Vigils**

Presented by Stu & Donna

RaR Holding recurrent Silent Vigils at alternating locations (Oculus and Grand Central)

Where: [Oculus](#)

When: Thursday 2/7/19 @5:30PM

Where: Grand Central Terminal

When: Friday 2/15/2019 @5:30PM

Especially publicize massive underreporting [family separation of migrant children](#)

*Action Asks:*

Requested funding for more Posters/Large Print Photos for Vigils (Mary Ellen offered to design Posters for Campaign)

**Already endorsed action: Approved**

*Discussion & Questions*

Call for Banner in Spanish. Jamie: Rare to engage spanish-speaking audience or media. Need spanish-speakers to address questions and media interviews. Photos/Visuals for community affected invoke solidarity, potentially more Spanish-speakers will show up tp DAs. Jamie and Action Working Group will take it under advisement for future demos.

**Yajaira Saavedra NYPD Illegal Detention Support**

Presented by Cotter

Support Yajaira at Community Board Police Meeting

When: Wednesday 2/6

Where: Lincoln Medical Center.

Background Information: [Press Conference at La Morada Restaurant](#)

Action Received ERT Approval for Action.

*Action Ask:*

**RaR Endorsement: Approved**

**[March Against Racism and Fascism](#) - United Against Racism and Fascism NYC (UARAF)**

Presented by Phillip

UARAF formed DEC 2018 as coalition of Left Groups, Socialist, Anarchists - Unified Left Front, committed to militancy mobilizing against Far Right

*Action Ask*

- Ask for Sponsorship of Rally/March. Have RaR participate in decision-making of Event and to send member participants.

- Ask for framework for coordinating with RaR. See parallels, alignment with RaR
- **No RaR Endorsement.** RaR not ready to take vote on sponsoring event. Have RaR send group of members to attend UAFAR General Meeting for further info

#### [United Against Racism and Fascism New York City General Meeting](#)

When: Friday 2/9/19 - 1PM

Where: UAW Local 2110 256 W 38th St, New York, NY 10018-5801

#### *Discussion & Questions*

- Stu: What is UARAF's position on Non-Violence? None, diverse groups with different positions. Agreements on tactics are made for mobilizing for each specific action.
- Philip: UARAF is largely nonviolent, diverse, international group that is aligned with RaR goals. Collaboration as means of diversifying, expanding membership and broadening base.
- Elka: By participating in this action, RaR can see how coalition with UAFAR performs.
- Tim - Stated RaR is nonviolent organization. Jamie said that was not correct - not in RaR mission statement or Bylaws. RaR has not committed or vowed for Nonviolence. RaR is committed to personal safety and de-escalation.

### **If Trump Declares A State Of Emergency**

Currently Placeholder Event

When & Where: TBD

#### *Action Ask*

- Event visuals and slogans. Mary Ellen designed 12 13x19 designs: 'No Way. No Wall. & "Trump is the Emergency'.
- RaR Approved Designs and Slogans. Under \$200 for printing, no vote necessary
- Execute Mass Civil Disobedience Street Vague Action - i.e. Shutdown Columbus Circle with Banners, Disrupt Street. RaR members will Take a Bust. Legal Support will be provided.

**RaR Vague Action Sponsorship: Approved**

#### *Discussion & Questions*

Mark - What are the activities of other groups? Immigrant Rights Groups?

Andy - Mueller Support Coalition not planning anything on SoE

Jamie - Not doing coalition mobilization, Focus on more rapid response upon declaration. RaR will be prepared in under 24 Hours notice for action. Will deploy current materials (banners).

Sarah - Extinction Rebellion will want to participate in Vague Action

## WORKING GROUP ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Elections

No Announcements

### Immigration

Presented by Donna

Jackson Heights Immigration Solidarity Network [Open Letter to Democrats](#)

#### *Action Ask*

- RaR sign onto Letter Being Sent to Democrat Members of Congress.
- **Rar Endorsement: Approved**

RaR Members need to Forward Letter

#### *Discussion & Questions*

Ask for textual change in Letter from 'Sisters and Brothers' to 'Siblings' (counter Non Binary erasure) before endorsement is given. Concern noted and vote still held.

### Emergency Response Team

No Announcements

### Communications

No Announcements

### Finance

Presented by Robert

RaR Treasury: \$13500 (Decrease of \$100 from last week)

Meeting Rent Collection \$118

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## NON RISE AND RESIST ACTIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presented by Tim

[Bird Dog Nation](#)

Organizing New Hampshire Trips (2/20-24) to address Candidates

Presented by Alexandra

Attended **The People's Forum Organization Meetings** - Monthly Gathering of People's Forum Organizations

Presented by Stu

[Green New Deal Campaign](#)

Delivering petitions to Congresspersons - Get them to Sign on to Bill from AOC

Presented by Sara

[Extinction Rebellion Potluck Report Back](#) and Debriefing on J26 Direct Action

When: 2/10/19

Where: Fourth Universalist Society in the City of New York. 160 Central Park W, New York, New York 10023

XR also needs people to host house meetings and are conducting house meeting trainings

Presented by Elka

Jussie Smollett Solidarity Rally Report

Center for Anti-Violence Education [Upstander Community Training](#) (Upstander 101)

Presented by Andy

Metropolitan Detention Center Report Back

Community mobilized, repairs were done - Need to Amplify Story

Meeting adjourned.

### Rise And Resist ###