

07.31.2018 RAR Meeting Minutes

Facilitators: Jamie, Ken

Notetaker: Jody

Group contact information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
- Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
- Twitter: [www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY](https://twitter.com/RiseandResistNY)
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- General email: info@riseandresist.org
- Press email: media@riseandresist.org
- Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm at the Church of the Village, 201 W 13th St.

Meeting Introduction

- Any members of law enforcement (none responded), any working press here (none responded), small meeting so should be easy to call on everyone - please raise your hand, give your names and pronouns, stay off your phones, we have some new faces
- Greeter - Alexandra; 4-5 new people
- Reading of mission statement

July 25 Return the Children report back (Jonathan, Jamie, Kellen)

- 40-50 people moving picket in front of Trump Tower
- Great signs - photographs of unidentifiable children
- NYPD asked if we were going inside - we told them we weren't
- Were surprised when we went into the street
- 11 people blocked traffic on fifth avenue for 45 minutes
- NYPD was not expecting it - didn't have anyone on hand to arrest - they didn't seem particularly concerned
- There was news coverage on WPIX, Univision and the AP
- It does change how the police are going to potentially look at our actions - we've seen that this week with larger police presence at our actions
- 11 arrests - disorderly conduct and/or obstruction of justice administration
- Court appearances in September
- COMMENT: amazing that there was almost no honking - people in traffic seemed okay with it
- COMMENT: we had empty strollers which was symbolism for the missing children
- COMMENT: seemed like we should have had more press
- COMMENT: support was great - hanging out at precinct until about 9pm - great way to get involved
- COMMENT: getting out of jail and seeing all of those people waiting was just wonderful

- COMMENT: the acoustics are pretty crappy - can people speak slowly?

Need volunteers (Donna)

- Philip has stepped away from a lot of the organizational stuff
- Need people to open up, close, take notes and play slides
- Need more people - people are on vacation, etc
- Want to recruit more people so we have a larger pool
- Please sign up
- Opening up - getting mics and supplies from security office, inform security that meeting is now open
- Closing - make sure we're out by 9:30, return mics and supplies to office and let security know we're out
- Note taking - take notes while meeting is going on
- Slide presentation - showing slides during meeting
- Sign up sheet going around for next 4 meetings
- Q: Do you need to be able to do a bunch of weeks in a row?
- A: you can sign up for as many shifts as you like - one or many. Because we are a non-hierarchical organization, even the tasks that no one wants to do, still needs to get done by someone in the group
- If we don't fill all of the spots tonight, we'll pass the sheet around again next week

New Actions

Elections (Betsy, Judy)

- Working on campaign to let former felons know they can vote - many of them don't know that they can
- Graphic that Mary created explaining that you can vote but you have to re-register - gives instructions - has the Rise and Resist logo on the graphic
- Online graphic - no cost in producing it
- Q: How will the outreach happen?
- A: We don't know - we're still figuring it out
- Q: Have you done any outreach to organizations that work with former convicts
- A: If you know people at any of those groups, please let us know and we'll send it to them
- COMMENT: I don't think you should tell them to reach out to their Parole Officer (in the text of the graphic proposed)
- A: That's what the NYCLU tells them to do
- COMMENT: Agreed regarding the Parole Officer - can you find an alternative?
- A: This is what the NYCLU says to do and this is what any person on parole needs to do
- COMMENT: This is better than nothing
- Clarification - the parole officer outreach is only for the people currently on parole
- COMMENT: They can download what's needed online - do they need to go to their parole officer?

- A: Certain people on parole still do need to get their parole officer's approval
- VOTE - to approve the use of the RAR logo on this digital piece
 - Passes unanimously

Mohammed Bah (Donna)

- September 25, 2012 - police shot Mohammed Bah in his own home after his mother called an ambulance and NYPD showed up first
- None of the officers were ever held accountable
- One officer (Matteo) was found to have used excessive force in a civil suit in 2017
- De Blasio is appealing the excessive force finding
- Tomorrow at noon at City Hall - support Bah's mother and ask de Blasio to drop the appeal
- VOTE: to make this a Rise and Resist action
 - Unanimously passed but not many can attend

Rent Collection

Read and Resist

- Sunday, August 5 at the LGBT Center 3-5 pm
- Violent Borders is the book

Museum trip Friday, August 10

- will be announced in more detail at the next meeting

Strategy Meeting (Susan)

- Was scheduled for Monday at the Center
- Not many have RSVP'd
- Should we postpone until September?
- Yes, we should

Any new members joined since the beginning of the meeting? A couple

4 Days of Action Immigration Action (Jody, Stu, Lizzie, Wendy, Alvin, Livvie)

- Yesterday at City Hall, targeting Mayor de Blasio
 - Good turnout (50-60 people)
 - Great press- need more Spanish speakers for Spanish language press
 - Good chants, some new people
- Today at Cuomo's office
 - Good turnout
 - Not as much press - seems like day 1 exhausted the press a bit
 - Some Trotskyites joined - had their own chants - we worked well together
- Tomorrow - Schumer's home in Brooklyn
 - Bring instruments and noise makers - may have band

- Thursday at 23 Wall Street - will have a Wall Street Fleece Market
- Tonight after Cuomo protest, joined protest at Amazon (Cosecha)
 - Andy plus 4 others got arrested for blocking access to Amazon store
 - Q: What is the relationship between Amazon and DHS?
 - A: Amazon has been providing technology to DHS - many Amazon employees are opposed to this
- Q: Are all of the events at 5:30 pm?
- A: Yes

Child Separation update (Lizzie)

- Trump admin failed to meet deadlines set by judge
- They've created a non-eligible category
 - No evidence required - they just decide that parents are not eligible
 - 363 of those children's parents have been deported
 - Trying to deport another 200 parents who they claim waived their rights to their children - the parents and lawyers dispute that
 - There's a stay right now to keep them from deporting families that have been reunited
- Want to make sure that all families are given the asylum hearing that they're entitled to
- Want to make sure families are kept out of detention while they're waiting for their hearings
- Important to keep the focus on the asylum issue - Trump administration may be trying to get rid of the asylum process entirely
- Important to find ways to hold this administration accountable for all of this
- Is Return the Children still applicable? You want them returned to their families but you don't want them deported
 - Probably need a hashtag to clarify - #EndFamilySeparation? Need something that addresses keep families here

Patricia Court Support August 3 (Patricia)

- Patricia goes back to court at 10 am on Friday, August 3
- Asking people to come at 9 or 9:30 - come early
- Press may be crazy again so let's get ahead of them
- We'll bring banners, flyers
- Going to emphasize Abolish ICE, End Family Separation, Return the Children, etc
- We can have empty strollers - need to figure out how to get them there
- About a dozen people can attend

ERT Vote (Claire)

- For this morning - NYCLU sponsored event - Mike Pence and Kirsten Nielsen in town
 - Asked for RAR to endorse event
 - No money needed - just promotion
 - ERT approved

- VOTE: to affirm ERT vote - unanimously approved

Finance (Susan)

- \$9,690.50 - current balance
- \$228 collected tonight for rent

SCOTUS August 1 Action

- CD in DC August 1 (tomorrow) with Center for Popular Democracy (CPD)
- About Kavanaugh - trying to increase pressure on some of the Senators to reject his nomination
- A few people from RAR are going down (5-7 people)
- A really good action/group to support

Non RAR Announcements

- Gays Against Guns (Ken) - NRA's relationship with Russia
 - This Saturday - march in Fairfax, VA at NRA - to draw attention to the money laundering and illegalities
 - NRA funneled \$30 million around the country - likely directly from Putin
 - Bus leaves at 6 am SHARP from the Center
 - Will be fun on a serious issue
 - Sing out Louise will likely be there
 - Looking for people to be Human Beings
 - Goal to be back by 11:30 pm that night
 - May stop off at the White House
 - Bus is free - if you want to contribute, it is appreciated
 - Sign up at Facebook event

Meeting ended early at 8:15 pm