

## RAR Minutes

Facilitators: Ken and Annette

Timekeeper: none

Notes: Jody

### Group 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 Church of the Village, 201 W 13th St.

### Meeting Notes

- Welcome/Introduction
  - Say your name and preferred pronouns, any members of law enforcement (no one responded), any working press (no one responded), put your phones away, step back/step up
  - Question: Is it inappropriate to be quizzed on the details of a vague action?
  - A: let's see how things unfold at the meeting
  - Check in with Harris if you're new to Rise and Resist
  - Reading of mission statement
- Report back on DC and NYC March for Our Lives (Ken)
  - Almost the entire meeting was at one of the two Marches
  - Friday morning - collaborative action at the NRA in DC - did a farewell to all of the brands that had left the NRA
  - 100,000 people watched video online
  - Rise and Resist, Gays against Guns, Sing Out Louise all together
  - It was noted all around in the press that we were there
  - Rise and Resist provided marshalls for NYC march
  - It is now an intergenerational thing - the young people appreciated our help and that we were listening to them
  - The young people are accomplishing what we have not been able to
  - Video shown (not so successfully) from Yahoo Lifestyle news - Teaming Up re the role gay rights activists played in the March
  - Jody: told story of birddogging Senator Schumer at March in NYC re the Dreamers

- Jake: Levity and fun was a big part of the protest which was good for the young people to see
- Alexis and Jamie: young man who organized march had never organized anything like this before. They trained about 50 marshalls at marshall training plus there were lots of Rise and Resist marshalls
  - No politicians onstage but politicians showed up and inserted selves at front of march
  - Gov Cuomo inserted self behind banner and chanted "Black Lives Matter" many times because he inserted himself right up there with BLM activists
  - Marshalls made politicians walk behind banner instead of in front of it
  - Forceful line of marshalls between press and front of march set pace
  - Back of the march marshalls kept a barrier between NYPD and marchers
  - Hundreds of people were sent way uptown and downtown and were unable to join the march
  - Aggressive NYPD on scooters driving into the crowd at the back - badge numbers 2285 (?) and 2286 (?) - been in touch with Letitia James' office to report them
  - Great that Rise and Resist and others showed up to help manage
  - Really do want everyone to be trained to be a marshall and help next time
- DC: GAG in Pershing Park - between Trump Post Office and White House
  - Had been told it was a rally followed by a march ending in Pershing Park
  - There were no marshalls - the Police were able to keep the march from happening - only a rally
  - There was a strong police presence at the front where the rally was taking place
  - A lot of people who organized in DC were experienced organizers from Occupy. There was a concern about youth marching in the street - there were too many people to march. There just wasn't space for them to march. The emphasis was on the voices at the rally.
- 60 minutes viewing report back (Martin)
  - Raised \$319 for the Sex Workers Project
  - Pix11 did a news segment - NY Times linked to it and BBC mentioned it as well
  - Sex Workers Project would like to work with us - invite them to actions
- Rent Collection
- Immigration Impeach Action - March 29 (Alvin)
  - Stop Trump's Racist Attacks on Immigrants
  - In front of the National Museum of the American Indian
  - Partnering with Native American playwright and actors
  - Original home of the Lenape tribe

- Opening blessing and closing poem from William S. Yellow robe
- Will also have traditional articles of impeachment
- Reading of opening welcome by William S. Yellow Robe jr.
- This Thursday 5:30-6:30 pm - One Bowling Green
- Other groups have endorsed the action
- Impeach Action April 5 (Eve and Martin)
  - Trump and Russia
  - Over 125 million Americans were exposed to fake news on facebook - meddling has continued after election
  - Trump has refused to do anything about Russia - government has passed sanctions but he's refused to enact them
  - Will have Russian Bots
  - Columbus Circle - April 5th at 5:30 pm
  - They need someone to play Putin - any volunteers?
- Impeach April 19 - youth caucus
- Impeach April 26 - stop Sabotaging Healthcare
- Impeach April 12 - TBD
- New Actions
  - Elections (Libby) - Eric Schneiderman is uniquely positioned to take on Trump
    - His office has invited us to co-sponsor event on Wednesday, April 11 "Taking on Trump"- 6 pm
    - They get to use our name and social media outreach
    - Helps us in our goals to turn NYS Blue - helps with visibility
    - At the Friends Seminary School on 15th Street
    - Q: Will there be an opportunity for someone at RAR to speak
    - A: don't know yet - maybe not speaker but recruiting
    - Q: Would we be endorsing Schneiderman?
    - A: I don't think it's an endorsement - he hasn't declared for anything
    - Q: Does it cost money to attend?
    - A: Don't think so but will find out
    - comment: Schneiderman is working with Mueller so that people can be tried in NYS if Trump pardons everyone federally
    - Q: Is he the only speaker
    - A: Don't know
    - Comment: this is a pretty straightforward event - our name would just be at the bottom of a list of progressive groups
    - Comment: Not comfortable voting without knowing about price tag - can we delay vote until we confirm whether event is free
    - General agreement on this point

- Comment: Eric Schneiderman is great but he will be running for office - does it set a precedent for other people running for office?
    - To be delayed until we know re cost to attend
  - Elections (Eve)
    - Has postcards for people to sign IDC - mad as hell
- Any new people came in late - talk to Harris
- New Actions continued
  - Need ASL translator for meetings (Jennifer)
    - Andy has been working on it - if anyone has access to a volunteer ASL translator, please contact Jennifer at reJennifer@gmail.com
- Fundraising (Andy)
  - We have been having a gradual decline in the RAR coffers - need to address
  - Online store with many wonderful products - shop and share links
  - Want to encourage everyone to solicit someone else to donate to Rise and Resist
  - This may seem like a scary idea
  - You need to be specific and direct in your conversation - be personal
  - There's a hierarchy of effectiveness of conversation: in person convo, phone call, text and then lower down, group emails, social media
  - You know your friends, have the convo how you usually talk to them (text, phone, etc)
  - Be personal, direct, specific and meaningful
  - Be specific about what you're doing - e.g. I work with the elections group for the last year, we are working to eliminate the IDC, can you donate, we need the money for an event next week
  - You know what's important to your friends - so appeal to that part of it (immigration, elections, etc)
  - Start with close friends, family and then spread outward to people you know less well
  - Spend the most time with the people you'll have the best conversations with - those who have a higher capacity to give - make a specific ask (\$25-50 or \$10-15)
  - Persistence helps - with practice you'll be better at it
  - It's hard to sustain this level of energy for 4 years, so the more people we can get involved as donors, the better
  - You can tie fundraising to events - a birthday coming up, a specific protest or holiday
  - Comment: the people you're talking to have to have a baseline agreement with what you're doing and they are donating to support YOU not the cause
  - Q: Can people donate by check instead of online?

- A: Link to PayPal and ActBlue have ability to do a recurring donation, they can give you cash and you can bring it to the meeting, checks can be made out to "Rise and Resist"
- Q: If we give info to ActBlue, will they give your info out to every democrat in the country? Is there a way to keep them from doing that?
- A: Not sure if it's ActBlue or the people you donate to who share info
- A: it's the organization you give money to not ActBlue who shares your info
- Q: where is the donate button on your cell phone? On the website
- A: Scroll down on RiseandResist.org and it's on the bottom
- Asked for people to commit to bringing in one new donor to Rise and Resist over the next 2 weeks - many people agreed to
- Role play - Stu asked Andy to make a donation - not very comfortable
- Email Rise and Resist and ask for practice if you want
- Practice with other members so it won't be so scary when you do it in real life
- Comment/Q: what are some of the things that you can give as examples of what the money is for?
- A: Be prepared to talk about upcoming events - rent, props and stamps
- Easter Parade (Diane, Donna and Lorenzo)
  - We have fun with this but there's a pretty serious for being out there
  - Fifth Avenue right in front of Trump Tower
  - Distractions (Stormy, etc) but these policies are slipping through without anyone paying attention
  - EPA barely functions - Pruitt is there to dismantle the agency
  - Climate change - getting really bad with hurricanes
  - Making Easter Eggs tomorrow from 4-6 pm at the Center just before the Actions Meeting
  - A repeat of the impeach action at the Winter Garden at World Financial Center
  - The Rights of Spring (Right to clean air, Right to....)
  - Sunday, April 1st - noon - at 58th St and 5th Ave at the Plaza
  - Bring your own bonnet or costume - they'll have props for people to hold
  - Who's coming?
  - It will be about 2 hours
  - comment: someone is planning a pretend military march in front of Trump Tower that day in case it's a conflict
  - Not a conflict.
  - Fussy LoMein will be there leading
- Postcard Party - tomorrow 7-9 pm (Mary and Rachel)
  - Postcards from California District One - incumbent is terrible - have postcards to send re that race
  - Postcards against Klein
  - 209 East 56th St, Apt 6B - will have postcards, stamps, pens, snacks

- Elections (Libby)
  - Eric Schneiderman event -
    - Not charging admission
    - he is the keynote speaker - how the legal resistance will be working with the grassroots resistance
    - He is running for AG re-election
  - Q: will he give us an opportunity to talk about what is important to us
  - A: don't know layout of the evening - the others on the panel will be grassroots activists
  - Vote - should Rise and Resist co-sponsor Taking on Trump event- April 11 at 6 pm at Friends' Seminary?
  - Vast majority in favor, few opposed, few abstentions- **motion carries**
  - Friend's Seminary - 15 Rutherford Place - RSVP to takingontrump2018@gmail.com
- Pride (Jake)
  - Meeting was going to be this weekend to talk about Pride
  - Now is going to be on April 7 or 8 instead
  - There will be a community meeting with HoP and NYPD
- Recruitment (Stu)
  - Next Saturday, March 31, at noon until people get tired - Union Square, on south side (14th St)
  - Has cards to give out - very useful
- Strategy Meeting re Rise and Resist (Mark and Stu)
  - Saturday, April 7 at 2:30 pm at 420 West 45th Street (9th/10th Aves)
  - If you have a concern or an idea, come
  - Minutes are published a week or so later
  - Working on vision and goals - it's hard but it seems to be shaping up
- Tax Day Action (Mark)
  - Tuesday, April 17th - 5-7 pm
  - People's Tax Day Action Festival
  - Foley Square
  - We'll have a selfie booth and soap box
  - We'll have a person dressed as Trump holding a large weight over his head
- Poor People's Campaign (Mark, Alexandra and Ann)
  - Would like to invite a speaker to Rise and Resist
  - 6 week period of action starting in June
  - Doing cultural development, political education, etc

- April 7th - doing an art buildout at Union Theological - if interested, please contact:
  - Alexandra woods - alexawoods1@gmail.com
  - Ann Rubin - [aerubin13@gmail.com](mailto:aerubin13@gmail.com)
- Bannon report back (Jamie)
  - Bannon speaking at Financial Times last Wednesday
  - Spoke at 4:50 pm at an all-day Financial Times event
  - Wanted to shame FT for giving him a platform, and talk to the people going inside and challenge people as to what they were going to do when Bannon spoke
  - Ended up doing 2 demos:
    - 8-9:15 am leafletting with ¼ page leaflet and one in the afternoon
    - Robert leafletted until about 11:30 am then took a break and came back at 1 pm - photo was tweeted from reporter
  - Good small action - just stood there and engaged with people on individual basis
  - They had to sneak Bannon in and out because we were there
  - The people from the Financial Times were on the defensive - came down and talked to us - said it was a good thing that people could question him
  - People come in and out all the time under our radar - we can do this kind of thing if we know about them
  - Q: How did we know he was there?
  - A: There are well connected people in the city who might know these things - people who are connected in political circles or journalism. Let them know we are a rapid-response protest team
- Finance (Robert)
  - We have \$6300
  - \$2600 accounts payable
  - Net: \$3700
  - Collected \$400 tonight
  - Selling stuff in the back
- Youth Caucus (Jeremiah)
  - If you think you're too old for the youth caucus, may not be true - talk to them
  - Working on following up from Parkland
  - Email [rar.youth@gmail.com](mailto:rar.youth@gmail.com)
  - Usually meets weekly - not sure if they'll meet this Sunday
  - April 19th impeach action - relating it to the April 20th walkout
  - Last Sunday they had 6 people making video re intergenerational collaborative effort
  - This group has stories on how activism matters and even though it's not the easiest thing, it's the right thing
  - Video series to show how important and worthwhile activism is

- Next round of video shooting April 10th from 6-9pm (Tuesday) - can we ask coalition partners to participate? Looking for about 6 people in 30 minute slots for April 10th. Please talk to youth caucus if you know anyone.
- Book Club (Andy) - Read and Resist
  - Met on Sunday - discussed *When They call You a Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir*
  - Next meeting April 29th - *How Democracies Die* - 3-5 pm - 632 Broadway (meetup building), 9th floor
  - May's book will be: *The End of Policing* by Alex Vitale - will discuss and think about how policing affects different communities differently - perhaps we can invite other organizations to join that conversation - might get switched to another month if Alex Vitale can join
  - Looking for suggestions for following months, particularly with NYC authors that might take part
- Non RAR announcements
  - Justice for Stephon Clark - tomorrow 7-9:30 pm at Columbus Circle - more info on facebook (Martin and Michael)
    - People's Monday - every Monday at 7 pm - has been marching since Eric Gardner - doing this one on Wednesday
    - Discussion of gun violence needs to include police gun violence
    - Not a permitted event - there may be some people risking arrest in the street - if you don't want to get arrested, stay on the sidewalk
  - Heritage of Pride (Michael)
    - there will be a community meeting at the Center - HoP needs to address issues pertinent to communities of color
    - April 24-26 -date to be confirmed
    - Monday ACT UP meeting - if you want to inform what will be on that agenda
  - This Is Our Land - movie screening (Andy)
    - Showing for 2 weeks in NY- postcards in the back
  - People who got arrested during the inauguration (Michael)
    - Trials starting in April through the end of the year- 59 people still facing charges
    - April 24th - first trial
    - May 17th Michael's trial
    - Be supportive
    - There will be more info in the newsletter