

## Rise and Resist General Meeting: 5.21.2019

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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://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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**Notes** - Alexandra, **Facilitators** - Livvie and Jody

**Welcome** (NYPD, Journalists, Get off your phone, Encourage to speak – raise your hand and give Name & Pronouns, Metro Cards)

### Report Backs:

#### **Thursday May 16 - Hey Cuomo – Real CCPA Now!**

Stuart: Event, some press

#### **Thursday May 16 - Trump Emergency Action at 71st St. 5<sup>th</sup> Ave. (ERT VOTE)**

Jamie, Marie: Described the process. There was no word for some time. Helicopter seen by Jody, last minute press messages; rush to call the action; at first we thought it was 71<sup>st</sup> and Madison; blocked off. 71<sup>st</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> had direct view of the tent and building; law is that protestors have the right of “sight and sound” of the President. Jamie and Ray refused a pen that was out of sight and sound. However, space was filled up very quickly, so many people were cut off by a “frozen zone”: The takeaway is that RaR should have gotten there sooner – maybe 1 ½ hours ahead of time. Lots of good energy  
**RAR voted to approve the Trump action.**

#### **5/21/19 Planned Parenthood Demo – (endorsed – ERT VOTE)**

Eve: Emergency Protest called by ACLU, Planned Parenthood, there were about 200 to 300 people there. Many RaR members present. Good job getting people out with very short notice; great energy; Sing Out Louise; Revolting Lesbians present among others. Channel 4 did not mention Pro-life rally May 4, but did aerial shot of action at Foley Square and rallies across the nation.

**RaR voted to approve the ERT action.**

**Elections: ERT vote**

While RaR has voted to approve letters that Elections approves without votes each time, Paul and Livvie reported on a letter from NY Immigration Coalition: calling for expanded early voting sites, community partner sites, borough wide early voting (allows people to vote anywhere in their borough; this is done in several states).

**5/20/19 Ilhan Omar action:**

Martin Q: Many counter-protestors: 200+ came. They had wanted to put up a billboard posted "Ilhan Omar must go". Quite a few RaR'ers Present. If Not Now NY: Jewish group were in support of RaR members. Counter-protestors became more aggressive, tried to antagonize; people were able to de-escalate. "There was a lot of hate." Cops seemed quiet. Intense convo with police. Some members found it a horrible experience; a shouting match; we took the bait; shouting at us that we were Hamas. They outnumbered us. Others said that there were Muslims there who were horrified by the hatred and very appreciative that we were there.

Trump is going to use Ilhan Omar as a wedge issue in the election. We need to plan ahead about this.

**There will be another another anti Ilhan Omar event June 23.**

**ERT:** There is one open slot, and there will be another most likely. If you are interested in being on the ERT, please send an email to [ERT@riseandresist.org](mailto:ERT@riseandresist.org)

**Facilitation announcements:**

- As members could see, we are eliminating reading of the mission statement at every meeting, and shortening our intro (step up step back)
- Meeting tasks for June list was passed out
- Climate Emergency T Shirts are available: \$15. Printed by local craftspeople

**Upcoming Actions:****Wednesday May 22 2:30PM – 40 Centre St. Trump vs. Deutsche Bank**

Jamie: Weds meet at 2pm at Thurgood Marshall Courthouse 40 Center Street, east side of Foley Square

Background: Trump is forcing people to defy subpoena regarding financial secrecy. Judge ruled that the accounting information has to be provided. This is hopeful, but a presence is needed. The hope is for a lot of press both outside and inside. Should be a good small action. If there are enough people, some can go inside.

**Thurs May 23 5:30 – Federal Hall/26 Wall St. – No One Is Above The Law/IMPEACH**

Rick: This is part of an effort to get Impeach Actions going again. If there is heavy rain, we can stand under the scaffolding.

Martin: **Actions will ask people to post selfies across the country holding signs that say "Impeach 45."** These will be posted on RaR social media.

**Thurs May 30, 5:30 Seeking Asylum Is Not A Crime – Staten Island Ferry Plaza, outside the Ferry building**

Donna: We will bring our current banners; "US Immigration Policy is a crime"; "seeking asylum is not a crime". The place has the advantage of being very, busy, lots of foot traffic, and visible.

**Follow-up presentation from last week's discussion on the general meeting.**

Sandy is leading a group to address the general meeting: She wants to do a focus group to discuss how to make the meeting more vibrant. She is very on it.

**New Actions:**

**RAR Participation in Reclaim Pride**

Robert: This is the last big hurrah for people of the Stonewall Generation. We want to honor our roots and pass the banner on to the next generation. Lockheed Martin will have a float at the HOP march. Reclaim Price is focusing on the most marginalized people, minimal police presence, minimal barricades: there will not be corporate floats. HOP had hundreds of floats including one for Lockheed Martin – direct part of the war machine.

Marshalls will be needed. Marshall training on June 1. There will be a bicycle tour to see exactly what marshalling is needed. This is part of Reclaim Pride's focus on disability awareness.

Options for RaR were discussed:

1. Full RaR contingent with banners
2. Low key, not official RaR
3. RaR marches with Reclaim Pride
4. Do your own thing

It was agreed: No new T Shirts.

Discussion:

Mark M: Go full blast with a banner, focusing on the past AND what is happening NOW in this country and internationally. Highlight the human rights social justice focus.

Jamie: How do we get RaR people out in a way that is successful and powerful? How many will be otherwise occupied (marshalling, marching with other groups)

- RAR banner, Mary's excellent posters
- Two years ago it was very successful and powerful, and there were lots of non RAR people who joined RAR
- Suggestion: Create a FB post: "march with RAR" and see how many express interest
- Bring in the social justice focus.
- We need good messaging.

**Group was formed to address these questions: Dann, Robert, Mark M, Alex**

**What's been happening, what are we working on, and what do we want to focus on that we're not (30 minutes)**

Stu: Mass actions around climate

Robert: If we do not take back the Senate, nothing matters. We have to focus on the Senate.

Mark H: Set ourselves up for next year; focus on what takes out Trump, climate change, health care, attack on women's rights, Mueller Report. Who are the candidates that we want to be lifting up?

Jamie: We don't want to focus on who we want to be the Democratic candidate; that will be divisive within RaR. Continue to demonize Trump and the Republicans. Trump will be in town at the General Assembly meeting (maybe a permitted action to allow it to be big.) There is no group organizing the huge demos (that we may hate), so RaR may need to do it.

Susan: Keep making anti-racism a central tenet. Otherwise we have Trump again. Also wealth inequality has to be the focus. What can we do to work against people's immobilization and fear?

Mark M: Return to bird-dogging that has been done for years: identify top ten issues we should focus on. Buttigieg said it well: "I don't care" about the Trump insults. We focus far too quickly on the grotesque. We should make candidates take positions on key issues, we should move beyond Trump.

Alex: Trump cares only about being richer and richer. Work to disabuse idea that he is for working class people

Paul: Court hearings are coming soon: this may raise consciousness.

Rick: asked, Do we spread ourselves too thin? And stated that he feels it is ultimately good to bring in these issues.

Alexandra: focus on Supreme Court in relation to the Abortion Bans; collaborate with activists in the Southern States.

Martin: support activist groups like Make the Road, Poor People's Campaign etc.

Leon: Reproductive rights: economic and civil rights issue. It can drive elections in areas where elections are decided by small groups. We can do work to harm the republican administration.

Stu: lists all the existing working groups. How do we channel actions from these groups into our larger goals?

Jody: It is good to brainstorm, make alliances (we have done this sparsely)

Rick: We do the things that other groups don't do. The Bannon event. etc.

Livvie: some groups can't take direct action but depend on us to do so.

Donna: focus on the criminal justice system.

Robert: our largest economy is the prison industrial complex. We are a nation of war.

Leon: We need to go big. This will draw people.

Mark H: Weave all the issues; draw them into a coherent narrative.

Katrina: We need to reach out to the old members. We need to make sure that people know where the new location is.

Mark M: We need to move beyond Anti Trump; We need a ten point plan to move America forward.

Mark H: It's not either/or

If people are interested in the ten point plan, please contact Mark M.

**Healthcare** is interested in having a speaker who will focus on reproductive rights from a direct action point of view as a way to catalyze our thinking. Plan for June 4 or June 11.

**7 RAR Protestors will go to trial for emergency action at Trump Hotel**

There will be another court date on August 6 and will go to trial; various people who have the time have elected to take this matter to trial. Others had to leave for work reasons.

**Finance**

\$96 raised today.

\$13,400 in the bank.

**Non Rise and Resist actions and announcement**

Stu: second school strike for climate 2pm Columbus Circle, an opportunity to be an ally

### Rise and Resist ###