Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 7.27.21

Rise and Resist Contact Information:

• Website: <u>www.riseandresist.org</u>

• Email list signup http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X

Twitter: www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY

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• Instagram: www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/

General email: <u>info@riseandresist.org</u>
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• Meetings: Every Tuesday at 7pm on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting click here

Facilitators: Paul & Jay Notes: Livvie 28 people attending on Zoom

Report Backs

July 14 End the Pandemic Everywhere. One of a series of actions during the week outside German Consulates because Merkel was in town. RaR action also included a march to Pfizer HQ and civil disobedience blocking Pfizer and 42nd and 2nd intersection. No arrests. Good SM and MSM coverage. Jamie shared their discontent with the way the affinity group handled the end of the action.

July 22 Immigration Vigil. Staten Island Ferry terminal. Every other week! Used *Defend DACA* signs which got response from a number of people because of recent DACA ruling. Lots of foot traffic, a lot of support. Two passersby joined.

July 23 Say Their Names. 96th and Broadway. Every Friday! Difficult conversation with a Native American Fire Eater (permitted) who is a supporter and did fire-eating as part of the action, freaked people out, police arrived and made him put his fire out. Another person interrupted during 9 minutes of silence. Tense, but the group maintained their calm presence.

July 23 Immigrants Are Essential. Report back postponed until next week when Wendy and Alvin can do it.

July 26 Schumer, Pass Voting Rights. Outside Schumer's office. Part of Poor People's Campaign, one of 40 actions across the country. 75+ people, clergy, Several other groups participated. RaR took the lead on the NYC organizing as PPC NY leadership is in Albany. Many speakers, singing, and the door to Schumer's office was not really blocked, no arrests.

Marijuana in Budget Conciliation?. At Schumer's House. Concern that conservative legislators are undermining legalization.

Upcoming Actions

August 2. 5:00. Voting Rights: Don't Come Home Without it. At Schumer's House, 9 PPW. Messaging was hard because Democrats are really betraying the people who elected Biden and others. "Failure is not an option." (Schumer's words). "Voting rights or resign." Poster party Thursday 7/28 at 6:00 to make posters with new messages. Location TBD.

August 4, 5:30. Lee "I oppose certifying the Election" Zeldin at Metropolitan Republican Club. 122 East 83rd St. (He also opposed the January 6 investigation AND he's running for Governor in NY.) We'll be inside and outside the premises.

August 6, 11. NYCAN Action demanding City Hall Divest NYC from Nuclear Weapons. Municipal Building. 1 Center Street. Honoring NYers who have fought against nukes. Make NYC a Nuclear Free Zone, appealing to Corey Johnson's legacy. Big push, hopefully the end of a multi-year campaign.

August 7, 1-2. Beds Not Bodybags. Eighth Bed Not Bodybags, in Elmhurst outside former St. John's Hospital which is now luxury apartments. Across from Queens Center Mall.

Discussion.

Schumer, The Filibuster, Voting Rights (S1 & S4), and our concerns that it won't happen before recess. NAN is going to Washington on August 28 to protest (I assume) the non-passage of S1 and S4. Buses are being organized now. Upsetting things in the discussion:

Biden saying voters will vote even if S1 and S4 aren't passed.

Biden expecting people to out-organize the state level voter suppression laws instead of pressuring Congress to pass S1 & S4

The betrayal of poor and working class voters who put Dems in office.

Dems wanting to keep dark money in elections as much as Repubs.

Dems falling to do the right thing (healthcare, climate legislation) even in NYS with two super majorities in the legislature.

Similarities between voter suppression now and the whole history of voter suppression since the Civil War.

Conclusions: None.

RISE AND RESIST