

Rise and Resist General Meeting 4/2/19

Facilitators: Jody and Cherie

Notes: Mike

Rise and Resist Contact Information

- Website: www.riseandresist.org
 - Email list signup <http://eepurl.com/cCzq1X>
 - Twitter: www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY
 - Facebook: www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/
 - Instagram: www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/
 - General email: info@riseandresist.org
 - Press email: 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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INTRODUCTION

- Any members of law enforcement here? None responded.
- Any working journalists here? None responded
- Raise your hand when you have something to say, give your name and preferred pronoun(s)
- Try not to be on your phone during the meeting
- Speak up and participate; anyone is welcome to vote; step back if you speak a lot
- Kellen has Metrocards for anyone who needs one to get to and from the meeting or actions
- Greeter introduction; any new members - Alexandria is greeter
- Elizabeth is the ASL translator - try not to get in front of her
- Went around the room and everyone said their name
- Reading of the Mission Statement

REPORT BACKS

1) **Malaysia Goodson Action** 3/27 at MTA Board Mtg. Jennifer – Elevator Action group. People's MTA also there. Action in front of MTA 2 Bway honoring woman killed in stairway fall.

Went up to MTA board meeting where Malaysia's cousin spoke – heart wrenching. She just said, "I shouldn't be here. I should be talking with my cousin. And, you never apologized. Freddie Ferrer, current chair, still didn't apologize. It was devastating. MTA is wildly dysfunctional.

Timothy – This hearing was very special because it was dedicated to Malaysia, but they have two minute limit and much time taken just to give proper greetings.

I looked at Board – Mayoral appointees and Gov appointees. When cousin of Malaysia spoke, not one of 36 on board had decency to apologize.

Write postcards to me and I will give them to Goodson next hearing. Everybody say, Miriam – I want to extend accessibility and disability rights and I live in District 3.

Participatory Budgeting is giving chance to vote for Hudson Park Library to get an elevator. I was there for a film and saw no signs stating there is a Participatory Budgeting process two blocks away where people can vote for an elevator. Director of that library didn't have the elevator option on her agenda. Participatory Budgeting is happening in 30+ districts across the city and kids aged 11 and up can vote too. If you live in Corey Johnson's District – Chelsea, etc. you can vote for this Hudson Park
PBNYC.org/vote

2) Seeking Asylum is Not a Crime – US Immigration Policy is a Crime 3/29

Rick – We had maybe 45 people participating. I was struck at how different it was than the oculus or grand central. Far fewer people interacted with us than at those locations.

3) Marshal Training at NYCFAR – No planning yet for May 4 event

Jamie – Last week we did marshall training for NYCFAR. They have been controversial at Planned Parenthood clinic because PP doesn't want them to counterprotest.

NYCFAR wanted help in how to de-escalation with anti-abortion protesters who sometimes physically attacked them.

They've asked us for 5/4 endorsement for counterprotest in Times Square during big anti-abortion rally. I told them how we would approach the situation.

Jill – Do you know why PP is against these actions?

Jamie – They think it's just as traumatic for patients to go through protesters and counter-protesters as it is to just have protesters.

Harris – I was told by PP to NOT counterprotest because it endangers their clients.

Alexandra – Has PP's position changed now that they've seen counterprotests.

Jamie – our focus is on helping NYCFAR maintain nonviolence.

4) ACTUP Protest Gillibrand fundraiser at home of Pfizer Exec.

Mark Milano – We had about 20 protesters with sound permit and megaphone, chanting Shame Shame, etc. for about 2 hours. We know they heard us for 2 hours. "The price goes up with every dose, while you are bribed by CEOs."

"We'll remember in November" chant at Gillibrand. Anybody in pocket of big pharma is not on our side.

Timothy - Birddogging – there's a website that lists all candidates schedules.

I told Gillibrand's campaign to tell them stop sending me emails, and they called me two hours later. I told them I no longer support Gillibrand

Kellen – ACTUP will be protesting any candidate that takes pharma money

5) **Jonathan was recently in a play “Still at Risk” about mid-2000s AIDS activists.** ACTUP, Rise and Resist were in attendance – about 50 people there.

Broadway Cares and Equity Fights AIDS gives lots of money.

This was under 100 seats that night RaR came we made \$840, whereas we usually make about \$400.

UPCOMING ACTIONS

Another Seeking Asylum demo on April 11 – location TBD

Rick – Seeking thoughts about location of next action.

Livvie – My personal preference is for Oculus, best crowd interaction. Martin seconds that.

Jody – what is our purpose? Times Square we did get opposition tourists.

Rick – TS good image

Kellen – Washington Square Park

Jennifer – SI Ferry Terminal, Fulton Subway Station

Rick – Hudson Yards

New person at meeting: Gregory

Release the Full Mueller Report – Thursday 4/4/19 Times Square

Wrolf - Marshalls needed at 5pm at 46st and 7th ave statue

Jamie – It's hard for me to feel enthusiastic about this action. I may feel differently about it if the deadline for the release passes and it's not released.

Curious about how we're going to get significant numbers. What other organizations are working on this?

Wrolf – It's scheduled for two days after congressional cmte chairs set their deadline.

It's national, MoveOn, Indivisible sponsored, so not just NY protest planned.

Vince: Nooneisabovethelaw.org is where you register, and 20k have signed up.

Wrolf: But that 20K list has accumulated over a year.

Jay: Four Freedoms Democratic Club, among sponsors.

Harris: Tricky because big parts of report cannot be released due to ongoing investigations.

Wrolf: Watergate report was released under similar circumstances.

Close Rikers Campaign

Martin – We endorsed about a year ago and last week heard update.

In NY State budget some progress in cash bail reform, discovery law.

4/5 Friday. Poster Party. 1900 Lexington Ave at 5 pm

Close Rikers wants to close Rikers and 19 other jails

Mon 4/8 Public Hearing 6 pm at 1 Center Street 19th floor Manhattan

Thurs 4/11 5-9 pm Public Hearing on 357 Claremont Ave in Brooklyn

Facilitation tasks

Donna: Needed 4/9, 4/23 and 4/30 notetakers.

NEW ACTIONS

Betsy DeVos Action - Manhattan Institute May 1st evening gala at Cipriani

Jamie - We're trying to make contacts with UFT activist groups.

We have people doing research on DeVos.

VOTE to protest gala passes unanimously

Nadler 7

Jamie: We're tracking Don Jr., Eric, Weiselberg, Calimari, etc. So we're going to come back with something about that as well.

Martin: Can we also reach out to Special Olympics?

Action with 350.org, 4/18 Groups gather at City Hall and march over Brooklyn Bridge against Williams Pipeline - Paul - Climate Action Group

Marty: Pipeline will carry fracked gas across NY harbor

Martin: Ask if coalition has press list that could also help us.

Cherie: We're just voting to endorse or not.

VOTE to endorse passes unanimously.

Climate working group is asking to join NY Renews coalition. - Paul

It's a group of NY/NJ groups doing environmental legislation work.

Claire – 160 NY groups in NY Renews big focus is CCPA getting passed in NYS legislature.

It doesn't cost us any money to join.

We will vote on whether to join to the NY Renews.

VOTE to join coalition passes unanimously.

Paul – We will be making stickers for climate action to culture jam all over the place. That will cost less than \$200, so no need to ask.

Cherie – Stickers which will say something like “This child only has 11 years...” they will not

have RaR name on them and can be put up in subway, public places

Elections Cmte Report

Harris – Some good: Bail reform, plastic bag ban.

We flipped the Senate, we found out that we have an obstructionist Assembly.

4/11 Thursday - Carl Heastie PAC is having a fundraiser, at Terroir 24 Harrison St. bet Greenwich and Hudson St., and we are going to protest, 5:30-6:45 pm

Livvie: The focus of the budget battle has been to get small donor matching, weaken big donor power, and they failed to do this.

170 Assembly members, 88 have supported small donor matching,

Real Estate lobby also defeated taxes on luxury second homes and ultramillionaires tax.

VOTE to endorse the Heastie protest

Passes almost unanimously with one abstention.

Comms report – Martin – We need to prune and research our press list and need help writing press releases.

Finance report– Rob - Net 13,700 a decrease of \$400 over last week.

Raised \$123 tonight

On website there's a reimbursement form – fill out and submit receipts, ideally in one PDF.

Non-RaR actions:

Lula Libre Teach-In This Saturday at People's Forum

Jay – **Reclaim Pride** –

Because Heritage of Pride is now march *from* nowhere instead of *to* nowhere.

So Reclaim Pride can start at 9 or 10 am? Sheridan Square and do most of march route we wanted going up 6th ave and eventually to Central Park Rally.

Martin – April 14 6-10 pm Reclaim Pride – Meet and Greet Fundraiser at Bar – with Stonewall Theme

April 13 Saturday – Paul: **Revolting Lesbians protest at AMNH** against Rebecca Mercer, so we want to support them

April 14 Sunday – **Extinction Rebellion** – 1:30 15th street and Prospect park west – funeral procession

April 17th Wed. **Extinction Rebellion** bigger action.

Rob – Free Conference Call – not likely to work in a loud public place, but good try.

Timothy - Patricia's mother died, and Patricia was able to get to the Congo and will be staying with family for a while.

We will get a group condolences card.

Rise and Resist