

Rise and Resist General Meeting: 7.16.2019

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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John and Jennifer Facilitating

Jennifer - Note - new room (arts room) - and seeking to facilitate discussion about the use of the space:

- Air conditioning
- Sight lines
- Accessibility needs

Welcome

- NYPD - Question
 - The main reason we ask is to know that this is a public space, and what is being said here is being heard, not necessarily just by "us"
- Get off your phone
 - Be present in the room - listen, be actively engaged
- Encourage to speak/raise your hand
 - Whether you've been here a million times or if this is your first meeting
 - Everyone present can vote on actions
 - Everyone is encouraged to have an opinion and to ask questions
- Name and pronouns
 - When you speak, we ask that people introduce themselves with their names and pronouns
- MetroCards
 - Kellen - If you need a MetroCard to attend tonight's meeting, or to an action, contact Kellen

Informal Introduction - Each person says their name

REPORTBACKS

- **July 11 - 5:30 pm Trump Tower - Defend Democracy/Impeach Now**
 - Postcards & Stickers
 - Impeach action - Thursday
 - 30-35 people in attendance
 - Gaggle of Secret Service Police in front of TRump Tower which indicates either Donald Trump Junior or Eric Trump were inside the building
 - Handed out 600 postcards (IMPEACH & Defend Democracy logo)
 - Stickers! And stickers are here!
 - Take them as long as you will put them up!
 - Post them in public places, where they will be invisible/visible
- **July 11 - 8:00 am - Bella Abzug Park - Make the Road Demonstration (RAR Endorsed)** - against Amazon Web Services (which contracts with Palanteer - which provides services to ICE) - Presenters, Mel & Jodie
 - 500 people with Make the Road
 - Short speeches, and then people moved to the Javits Center
 - 2 actions - Outside Action (which Mel participated in)
 - Spread across the length of the Javits Center - positive vibe
 - People going into the conference had to hear from the protesters
 - Inside Action - Chief Tech Officer of Amazon was giving a keynote
 - A group of 30 people worked inside to interrupt his speech 5 times
 - Folks were escorted out
 - Successful action - let a lot of people know about the relationship between AWS and Palanteer
 - Amazon censored their live feed audio so that heckling was removed
 - Mike - - Filmed the outside action with his daughter & sharing speeches for Make the Road - - Including information on families impacted by ICE Actions
 - Citizens United - Corporations are now "citizens" in giving \$
 - Note to citizens - as consumers - do not support organizations that are giving \$ to causes you do not support. Follow the \$.
 - Will there be follow-up dialogue with Amazon Tech Officers?
- **July 14 - Disability Pride Parade**
 - Sunday, July 14th - From Mad Sq. Park - Union Square
 - Jennifer - reporting - on behalf of the Elevator Action Group
 - Report-backs - Interesting and potentially dangerous communication in the organizing of action
 - Had idea - of cardboard cutout of Andrew Cuomo with white-board bubble
 - Cuomo never talks about accessibility
 - Mock elevator opening, with Cuomo "in attendance"

- Media alert about the Elevator Action Group mock elevator-ribbon-cutting was written tongue-in-cheek
 - Media alert upset allies, as people were concerned and confused that Cuomo was invited
 - Apologies were written and shared with groups that were concerned, and messaging was edited to be more clear and direct.
- Concerns with making actions moving forward
 - There needs to be multiple people working on writing action statements, Facebook posts, etc. - - have several readers/reviewers, so as to make sure messaging is clear

Facilitation Announcements

- Collect Rent
 - Contribute whatever you can or can't - whatever you can contribute is greatly appreciated
- If you have a complaint about the People's Forum - Contact one of the R+R Facilitators
 - It centralizes concerns, and makes sure there aren't repeat complaints/multiple complaints about the same thing to a People's Forum staffer.
- July tasks - for remaining meetings on 7/23, 7/30
 - Notetaker needed for 7/30
 - At next meeting, we'll have the sign-up sheet for tasks for August

Follow-up Facilitation

- A bunch of new folks have come in - identify if you're new
- Welcome
- Announcements/reminder about:
 - Right to speak up and vote
 - Right to ask questions
 - Notification about Police/Journalists

Reportback

- **July 15 - Civil Disobedience Action - No Raids** - Reportback followed by discussion
- 42nd and 5th Avenue
- Jamie - working on Logistics - -and thank you to - Zach, Kellen, Rick, and Jenny Hines to review the sites looked at for this event. And Sheree, She/her - heading up support for the event
- Great action - 48 people arrested
- Summary - 3 groups went out into the street, timed very closely together - first blocking Fifth Avenue, then both sides of 42nd Street, East and West
- 50 people in the street initially; additional passersby came into the street

- A lot of people in support on the sidewalks
- Dann - is 48 a R+ R record for arrests? (Yes it is)
- Props involved in the event
 - Toilet - Toilet was an add-on - brainchild of Ivy and Tom - who bought and brought by Taxi - decorated with Turmeric water and a bunch of stickers - - it says ICE Drinking water for Stephen Miller and Donald Trump
- Susan - Congratulations and thank you to the organizers of this action - it was so well organized
- Libby - Were there other groups that joined as groups, or just individuals in the streets?
- Revolting Lesbians were joined (some had joined as individuals)
- A lot of people who had participated had participated in other civil disobedience actions, or immigration actions
- Jodie - Shout-out to Press, because a lot of good press joined
- There was a CBS Chopper that showed the buses on 5th Avenue backed up into the 70s
- People are feeling something, and showing up more, and engaging more in actions
- People are turning out as a result of greater outrage -
- A lot of passion, too, on the "other side" - both at this action, and at the Grand Central protest re: immigrationn two weeks ago.
- Police commandeered a NYC Bus to bring arrests
- Signs - Note - people really enjoy - Lori - "We will not be silent" style signs - We see children being dehumanized; Abolish ICE signs - - People really like holding up signs, and it makes actions more readable, very clear.
- Taxi drivers got out of their cabs - speaking with drivers about experience - as largely a community of immigrant persons
- Crosswalks - kept open so that pedestrians could cross streets, and created greater visibility of the action (as people cross to Grand Central/Port Authority Transit hubs)
 - Also engaged citizens in participation - by photographing/videoing, sharing photos and images
- Mark - Timing - and ability to participate even if you can't risk arrest, but participating
- Other actions happening in:
 - Atlanta
 - DC
 - Chicago
- New person interested -
 - How to get involved, and need for more R+ R recruitment to help engage people that may be interested in being involved in Civil Disobedience actions and other actions moving forward.
- Practical comment - thinking about fliers as an integral part of direct actions
 - Sharing fliers with people
 - Giving Support teams more fliers and cards -

- Question about “what camps?” - and concerns about the fact that a LOT of people DON’T KNOW what is going on - and creating a very direct, very clear set of information about what is happening
 - Designing fliers “into” actions
- Alexis - we have this opportunity to do education when we do these actions - putting together fliers - having more fliers
 - Like many of the things we do, this is an iterative process - this takes people time - this takes dedication, and this is part of what we do to put together an action in the weeks.
 - Person power - - Support is doing SUPPORT at an action - - and people juggling tasks - we may be at a moment where we need to be clear on how many people are needed for an action, and take on roles
 - Flyering
 - Support
 - Media
 - Educational/follow-up outreach
 - Concerns about how to mitigate, and how to open conversations with people opposed to our work and actions, as a means of de-escalating
 - Actions Committee Meets - Weds. nite from 6-8 pm at the United Auto Workers at 256 West 38th Street, 12th Floor
 - It’s a great committee and new people are always, always welcome - Skills like graphics and leaflet-writing are needed
 - Negative comment - Re: Toilet - as an “add on” - - Politically, I don’t like what it said, and I think it was in a lot of the camera shots, and as a mostly white group, there ARE people who are being forced to drink from toilets, and while it comes up as a “funny” moment in media, it denies the seriousness of the situation.
 - Concerns about: Sing Out Louise - singing while people are being arrested.

Discussion

- Responding to immigration raid and conditions in the camps

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Picnic - Saturday, July 27th - Central Park - The Pool** (A pond, called the pool - - a body of water on the West Side of the park near West 101st - 102nd on Central Park West)
 - 10:00 am - 3:00 pm (permit time) - Prime time of event, between 11:00 am and 2:00 pm
 - Announcement by Diane and Alexis -
 - Happy Summer!

- People bring some tables/chairs
- People bring food in Potluck style - Bring non-alcoholic beverages, wine & beer
- Bring friends, family, and recruits

Climate Action Group - UN Summit, Sheree

- Climate - Climate group has coordinated a convening of multiple groups to
- UN Climate SUMmit in September - looking to host a large action
- Wednesday, July 17th, from 4:00 - 6:00 pm at 145 Lexington Ave, Apt. 7 - Private apt.
- Cross Street - 29th Street
- First meeting to plan the action
- Plan to have an action on Wall Street at the time of the UN Climate summit in Sept.

UPCOMING ACTIONS

Riders Alliance Rally - July 17th - 11:00 am - 42nd Street & Park Avenue

- Jennifer presenting - Rider's Alliance Rally (RAR is a co-supporter/endorsed)
- Rally to Tell Cuomo that he needs to put his money where his mouth is - - funding to make elevators in the Subway system, and allocating funds to support MTA

July 20th Impeach Procession in the Theater District

- Virginia & Diane - Presenting
- Featuring SingOut Louise
- Impeach Parade/Procession
- Starts in Bryant Park at 6:30 on Saturday, July 20th - Meet at the Fountain
- Brass-Band - Pussy Grabs Back
- IMPEACH Umbrella Dance
- Shawn as Drag Ivanka
- Trish will dress as Drag Mueller
- Ken Kent as Trump
- Leon as Putin
- Maryellen doing Marie Antoinette: Let them Eat Cake
- Travels to What the Constitution Means to Me
- Travels to where Hamilton
- Travels back through Times Square

NEW ACTIONS

Mark, speaking from his work and experience with **R+R, and HealthGap** - and seeking treatment for people with HIV around the world

- Proposing a Rise and Resist Action - to co-sponsor an event along with HealthGap and other Groups; where Rise and Resist would be the Lead Organization

- Comrades in Malawi were arrested because they have been protesting corrupt elections held in Malawi in May
- Comrades were released on Thursday, but charges have not been dropped
- Malawi mission to the UN is selected as a target - - the plan is to have a walking picket in front of the Malawi Mission to the UN
- Seeking to develop a peaceful sidewalk posting - to seek for drop of the charges against the activists
- Amnesty International AND ActUP have been engaged as co-supporters
- Mark is seeking Endorsement so they can get a Facebook Event up once the date is up
- They have the permission of the activists arrested to create this event
- HealthGap - there will be a parallel event in Washington, DC

Rise and Resist VOTES TO Co-Head action

Non Rise & Resist Action Presented by Alexis C.

- Part of Revolting Lesbians & a partner org
- Chilean - Butch Lesbians and GNC persons are frequently being attacked and murdered
- Case in particular activists in Chile are drawing attention to: Justicia Para Nicole Saavedra
- Lots of Chilean organizers working over the last year to bring attention to the murders of people on the basis of their gender presentation
- Anniversary of her death was June 25th 2016
- Femicide laws in Chile only include cisgender straight victims of domestic violence
- U.S. had a significant role in placement of Dictator in Chile, and as such, Chile looks to US in many ways, so any media or embarrassment coming from US Media has an impact on action in
- Thursday, July 25th
- 9:00 am
- Chilean Consulate - 600 3rd Avenue, between 39th and 40th Street
- Street-level, walking picket, from 9:00 am - 10:00 am hour
- Chilean Consulate is a small office in a large building
- People coming to the embassy to renew their visas
- Short action - paying attention to education
 - Dual language signs
 - Dual language statements to be handed out to people

Delayed Reportback

Katrina, Simone - - attended a conference and series of panels at the **Poor People's Campaign**

Poor People's Moral Action National Congress in Wash. DC a month ago (June, 2019)

- Rise & Resist is an active member of the Poor People's Campaign, along w/allied groups, Housing Works, Vocal, etc.

Katrina

- Fliers - Poor People's campaign - distributing information - a description of the "Supplemental Poverty Measure" - defined April 2018 - Low-income is defined as twice the poverty line - 42.5% of U.S. Population is "Low income" under this definition - nearly 140M Americans living in poor, poverty, low-income
 - Seeking to use this measure as a means of uniting people and to show how people are united through health challenges, environmental challenges, and how so many people are "one emergency away" from poverty
 - Releasing 14 states in September to target as part of the Poor People's Campaign in support for the upcoming election
- Disability and faith leaders = Connecting with faith leaders to support disability rights

Simone

- Attended as a NYS Delegate and a Youth Delegate
- Attended workshops on Youth organizing and systemic racism
- Met youth organizers & activists at the conference, and working on organizing a youth contingent of the Poor People's Campaign
- Also one of the founding members of the R+R Youth contingent
- And request to re-start up the Youth Contingent of R+ R

Anne

- Poor People's campaign - Major call for building campaigns over the next year
- Base-building and community organizing
- Aim is to have a major March on Washington 1 month from the Congress (Next June - June 20th, 2020) Poor People's Assembly and March on Washington
- Biggest piece for us - groups that have signed onto the campaign to grow, grow participation in the Poor People's campaign
- Defining what "Poor People" is broadly
- Retreat at the end of October for folks engaged with the Poor People's Campaign to build movement in NYS over the next year - If folks want to attend the retreat, speak w/the team that attended the congress

Finance

12,500 (Net worth)

Collected \$260 tonight

Communications

Dann - in Communications Group

- Communications group from yesterday's action
- If anyone wants to help with the Comms team - see Dann after the meeting, or e-mail media@riseandresist.org
- Take pictures, send them to Media@riseandresist.org

Non-Rise and Resist Event

- Campaign for a non-elected Civilian Review Board - - Commission meeting tomorrow night (July 17, 2019)
- NYC deserves an elected, empowered civilian review board to investigate
- Posters for volunteers to hold
- Tomorrow night, 6:00 pm at City Hall - Hold Police Accountable with an Elected Civilian Review Board
- HQuick@gmail.com - Heather Quick - Key Contact person for the event

Rise and Resist Announcement by Alexis - Civil Action, and Direct Action

- Civil Disobedience Training
- Saturday, August 3rd
- Time: not yet set
- With the Tompkins Square Library
 - Libraries are our partners in promoting the first amendment
- It's free
 - It's 5 hours
 - There is a break for lunch
 - Passport to participating in more types of events and actions

Other Non Rise and Resist Events

- Tomorrow - **Eric Garner Protests**
- Foley Square, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm tomorrow evening (Wednesday, 7/17)
- 6:00 pm on the Staten Island side of the Ferry - Tomorrow (Wednesday, 7/17), and walk to the site where Eric Garner was killed.

Robert - Announcement - **NYC Nuclear Weapons Producing and NYC Businesses** invested in nuclear weapons

- Boeing
- City Council - Tuesday the 23rd - Getting NYC to reaffirm NYC as a nuclear weapons free zone since 1983. Meeting is at noon

Rise and Resist