Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 8.3.2021

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 on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting click here

Facilitators: Jamie and Karin   Notes: Alex

Because of all upcoming actions, the Action Committee will meet Thursday at 8 pm for a short meeting.

Link to making a donation to Rise and Resist: https://www.riseandresist.org/donate

Good News (“Schadenfreude!”)
Lindsey Graham got COVID probably while on Joe Manchin’s yacht
Letitia James submitted her report on Cuomo where he was accused of misconduct by 11 people including a state trooper; Biden called for him to resign. All of the Democratic conference stated he can no longer serve as governor. The Senate majority leader has called for his resignation. Lieutenant Governor, who would succeed him, is a centrist Dem from Erie County.
*Note: A press conference outside his NYC office tomorrow at 11 a.m. at 633 Third Ave. (at 40th St.) hosted by Housing Justice for All, titled "Evict Cuomo, Not Tenants"

Report Backs
July 30 - Say Their Names - every Friday at 5PM at 96th and Broadway.
Jenny: New photos, chalking, participants, quite a bit of interest right at beginning of vigil, Alvin and his chimes; the biography Ann writes of various people who have been killed by police violence.

August 2 - 5PM at Schumer’s House (9 Prospect Park West) - Voting Rights: Don’t Come Home Without It.
Livvie: Lots of advance notice. 50 people came. It was lively and vociferous. Raging Grannies; great energy; many people called Schumer and had his vm record the chants. Signs were more legible than at other actions.

**Discussion/vote to change mask policy to optional at outdoor actions.**

Karin opened discussion: we need space to discuss and may need a policy.
*General agreement that we mask for indoor actions.
*We need clarity and we need to listen to each other.
*Follow CDC guidelines; you don’t need to wear one out of doors if vaccinated;
*Given denialism, model best behavior to reinforce the message that the pandemic is not over.
We need to protect ourselves and the whole community.
*Don’t feel people are at risk out of doors; it is theater to wear masks outdoors, demonstration is its own theater. People should do what makes us most comfortable.
*Follow recommended policy. We don’t need to wear masks because we are vaccinated. We need to keep watching trends
*Two friends who are fully vaccinated have COVID. Now 5 minutes of transmission seems to be enough to transmit. We are faced with unmasked people who may not have been vaccinated.
*We can convey COVID to each other even if vaccinated.
*We can go maskless if 6’ feet plus apart, but if we get closer, we should wear masks.
*Consensus that people hate wearing masks.
*Some changed their opinions. Despite their hate of masks, the facts are not clear yet about whether people are contracting COVID in out of doors gatherings.
*Some said people should do what they want; some said people should wear masks.
* Robert offered this link re N95 surgical mask efficacy.

*Invest in 95 masks with RaR logo
*A long hauler with recent symptoms stated they were pro-mask.
*Maybe one can wear masks in different situations, like leafleting drivers, but not standing near to each other.
*Some appreciated being reminded to wear a mask, and felt better when doing so.
Joan: Degrees of protection depending on the mask.
*The more people who wear masks, the less strange it seems to others; it sends a message.

In a close vote RaR members voted to mandate masks in outside actions.
This decision will be revisited as information changes.
RaR members unanimously affirmed that masks are necessary in indoor actions.

**Upcoming Actions**

**Wednesday August 4 at 5:30pm to 7pm - Protest Lee Zeldin’s appearance at the Metropolitan Republican Club (122 East 83rd St.)**
https://fb.me/e/15Bk8TOAZ
Jamie: Outside Republican Club: perp walk of shame. Posters all citing Zeldin’s complicity with Trump and support of the Jan 6 insurrection. Republican Club has one entrance and one exit. Zeldin is going to Union Club on 37th Street at 7 pm and we may send people down there.

Thursday, August 5, 5PM Immigration vigil at Staten Island Ferry Terminal in Manhattan. 
[https://fb.me/e/13cywAN5A](https://fb.me/e/13cywAN5A)

Jamie: Biden is continuing to use Title 42 ostensibly because of COVID. This is a false narrative. Testing would be safer than sending asylum seekers back.
No one is allowed to apply for asylum. More unaccompanied kids will come since their parents can’t apply for asylum. Very disappointing decision by Biden.
Very mixed crowd of people happy to see us and Trumpsters who are not.

Friday August 6, 11 AM, NYCAN Action at David Dinkins Municipal Building (across from City Hall) [https://fb.me/e/2pgmDuQpj](https://fb.me/e/2pgmDuQpj)

Robert: thanked Bill Hartmann for long commitment to nuclear disarmament legislation.
There has been progress: 4 of us are meeting with Brad Lander tomorrow.
2 pieces of legislation pending.
We are speaking to Cory Johnson who has not brought this to the floor for a vote and his legacy, honoring many great anti-nuclear leaders: Dorothy Day, Leslie Cagan, Langston Hughes, Bayard Rustin among others.
Brad Lander and Danny Dromm will be speaking.
20 minutes of speaking from faith leaders and LGBTQ community.
Here’s our Nuclear Ban toolkit posted on Rise and Resist’s website. If you can’t attend, call Corey Johnson’s legislative office and urge him to pass Res. 976 & Introduction 1621
[https://hibakushastories.org/nuclear-ban-treaty-toolkit/](https://hibakushastories.org/nuclear-ban-treaty-toolkit/)

Saturday August 7, 1PM Beds Not Body Bags- Elmhurst Queens: Queens Pointe, 90-02 Queens Blvd., Elmhurst, NY 11373 [https://fb.me/e/37pUWjhLD](https://fb.me/e/37pUWjhLD)
To get there: Woodhaven stop on the M or the R; Express to Roosevelt Ave and then local for 3 stops. Stay at the back of the train.

Leon and Mark: This action will be in front of where St. John’s Hospital used to be and is now an apartment building SW corner of Woodhaven Boulevard. Same catchment area as Elmhurst Hospital, so its closure doubled the burden carried by Elmhurst, and contributed in a major way to the devastation.
The area is not heavily trafficked, but there are other spots where we can go leaflet.

Next Schumer/S1 Action on August 10 at 1 pm. Battery Park east of Castle Clinton area near WWII memorial, as if you were walking to Staten Island ferry
[https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/battery-park/monuments/1929](https://www.nycgovparks.org/parks/battery-park/monuments/1929)
Livvie and Mark: Coalition is struggling with this action, debating location and messaging. Many meetings. On 8/10 there will be a national day of action, so this is a reason to stick with this date rather than continue another Monday action. 
Themes being debated: funerals that Schumer could prevent from occurring, or democracy is in ICU.
RaR voted to do Tuesday at 1 action and not do a separate action on Monday.

Volunteers are needed for facilitation, screen share, and notes from now into October. If interested, put your name in chat, and we will send you a doodle poll.

New Actions
A series of weekday/daytime actions at Fox News: starting on August 24 at Fox at 9 am. Discussion by Bill Hartman and George Day, Julie De Laurier and Wendy Brandes. Bill and George had been thinking of a series of actions in front of Fox news. Then COVID came, BLM, election.
We have decided to go forward again. Fox is now the Hannity/Tucker Carlson show. How can we re-amplify their message by drawing out what Fox says? Goal to motivate people in Red States, “grass roots Lincoln project”.
We have a website. Foxlies.net; foxfibs.com
RaR voted to cosponsor this series of actions with a start-up budget of $450.

Coalition planning #StopAsianHate action in Chinatown.
Alvin and Wendy: media gaze has left coverage of anti-Asian hate crimes. A 60 year old friend was punched and thrown to the ground. Another woman died. Looking for ideas; early stages of planning. Get attention back to these attacks.
Locations: Forsyth and Canal. Cherie suggested entrance to Manhattan Bridge with layered banners. We have held Immigrations Actions there.
Contact Alvin with any suggestions: alvin.eng8@gmail.com
RaR voted to support A and W in their work on this action with an endorsement.

Non Rise and Resist announcements
Katrina: City is trying to rush increasing to match the Section 8 voucher. August 1 to August 30: She will request that we write messages as to why this extra funding is necessary. Will report back with more information.

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