

## Rise and Resist General Meeting - Zoom Edition - 6.30.2020

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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](http://www.twitter.com/RiseandResistNY)
  - Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/](http://www.facebook.com/RiseandResistNYC/)
  - Instagram: [www.instagram.com/risenresistnyc/](http://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 on Zoom. To sign up for the Zoom meeting [click here](#)
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**Notes** - Alexandra **Facilitators** - Stu, Jennifer and Jamie **ASL Signer** - Elizabeth

### UPCOMING ACTIONS

- **Say Their Names/Banner vigil:** 96 and Broadway, 5 pm Friday **July 3**
- **Campaign for Elected Civilian Review Board:** Rally planned Friday, 2 pm, **July 3** at Foley Square with march to City Hall
  - o <https://www.facebook.com/events/194033728662616>
- **Confronting July 4: March to honor Black and Indigenous Activists:** Fort Greene Park at Willoughby Ave. to Prospect Park 15<sup>th</sup> St. entrance 2:30 pm July 4, Saturday.
  - o Celebration featuring speakers, performers, and DJs - including @resistancerevivalchorus, Sadiq Bellamy of @soulsummitmusic, and more to be announced - starting at 5.
    - [https://www.instagram.com/p/CCERX\\_aj7Q/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CCERX_aj7Q/)

### WAYS TO KNOW WHAT ACTIONS ARE COMING UP

- @justiceforgeorge on web and Instagram keeps a mailing list and social media feeds that list all of the marches around the city on a daily basis
- RiseandResist.org has minutes usually 24 hours after general meeting
  - o Look under Events/About/Minutes
- Via Action Group emails. Meetings on Zoom every Wed. @6-8pm
  - o [action-committee-rar@googlegroups.com](mailto:action-committee-rar@googlegroups.com)

Let's celebrate some good news 😊

Cherie: **Supreme Court strikes down Louisiana abortion law.**

- Several RaR members went down to DC in advance of the decision
- This is a temporary reprieve; 4 years ago an almost an identical version came to court, and Roberts dissented. This time he was with majority ONLY because of “Stare Decisis”: precedent.
- Next time an abortion case comes through we cannot count on Roberts.
- There are lots of abortion cases coming up from the state level.

Jamie: **DeBlasio is going to end solitary confinement in city jails.**

**Banner Actions through the city:** photos shown

- Elder demonstration at Occupy location. Masks and distancing were a problem
- Reclaim Pride: Laurie Arbeiter’s action prior to the march.

**Say Their Names/Banner Vigil: second vigil was Friday June 26 at 5**

- Jennie: wonderful event; people from the community, smaller gathering this past Friday which was excellent.
- Hope to do it weekly: this Friday at 5 pm 96<sup>th</sup> and Broadway
- Ann S and Jennie are discussing how not to “normalize” the horror of all of the murders.

**Queer Liberation March for Black Lives and Against Police Brutality.**

- Jay: Background: Police approached our attorney Norman Siegal to ask if we wanted it permitted. We said no since all actions are not permitted these days.
  - Police wrote they would not impede the march in any way.
  - There was a battery of police officers at north end of Washington Square Park
- Jamie: Artie always accompanies Dyke march, did Reclaim last year.
  - His people blocked traffic, but Artie ended his shift at WSP.
  - There was a lovely be-in in the park.
  - Then one kid used a sharpie to cross out NYPD on the back of a police car.
  - Police signalled “police in danger”
  - Riot police arrived with batons, pepper sprayed about 20 people several times, as they took a while to get the person out.
  - They arrested two more.
  - Police behaved in a warning way, directed at getting people to disperse, but the demonstrators did not take the bait and stayed.
  - Marshalls (especially BC, Alexis and Jamie) worked to de escalate, including sitting down briefly, which at least helped calm people.
  - With these crowds, it was lucky that people marshalled themselves.
  - Police knocked people off their bikes; knocked an officer off his bike, pepper sprayed a couple of officers.
  - Cops realized no one was going to leave.
  - Police did a “perp walk” out; activists were verbally abusive.
  - We reasoned that these cops were from the 6<sup>th</sup> precinct which is historically a very aggressive precinct; but there were cops from all over the city there.
    - This was clearly planned.
- Alexis: Out Magazine has very Interesting coverage of police intransigence **at a number of moments** throughout the day, not just at the end.

- o <https://www.out.com/activism/2020/6/29/51-years-after-stonewall-new-york-police-attack-queer-marchers>
- Jackie: I have never seen such strength and determination by the crowd
- Linds: New member calling in from City Hall.
  - o Pride was so authentic and beautiful and filled with joy; I was just a few people away from the person who was arrested; people near me were sprayed. I was ready. It could have been so much worse.
  - o I was a marshal at the QLM4BLM and was very much in the very middle of the violence around 4pm-5pm.
  - o I got a short video before getting smacked.
    - Can be reached via my insta bio @linds\_e\_mas, or thru friend's twitter feed: @drivenbyboredem
- Jamie: Change in police strategy:
  - o Picking people off more aggressively; it may be purposeful to randomly pop off at people with the goal of intimidating marchers.
  - o They chose the wrong crowd
- Jay: cops noticed scribbling on the car. Undercover cop identified the person who may have scribbled on the car. And they jumped him.
- Jamie: Artie was very apologetic.
- Alexandra: Mark Apolloa video showed a standoff between police and demonstrators of about ½ hour. It was very tense.
- Alexis: The three arrested people have been arraigned and released. One on bond.

### City Budget - Defund The Police

- Livvie: the City Council is not taking out \$1b from the budget, which, in fact, is more likely \$1.5;
  - o Instead money is being reshuffled; our city council members are not behaving like allies; these members are supposed to be the 'people's city council'
- Vote postponed till 8 pm.
- Mark H: if they don't adopt a budget, it will fall into Cuomo's lap; they do not want that.
  - o Stu: this happened in the 1970's, fiscal control removed from the City's hands.
    - Mark D recommends book: Fear City covers that period in the 1970's
- The block on federal funding to states and cities to help them fill sudden budget holes because of the pandemic is U.S. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. Trump will go along with whatever McConnell and House Speaker Nancy Pelosi finally negotiate. Pelosi and Senate Minority Leader Chuck Schumern has been ready to do so since mid-May after the House passed the HEROES Act. McConnell is stonewalling
- Ann R:
  - o <https://gothamist.com/news/nypd-officers-rough-protesters-occupying-city-hall-show-force-budget-vote>

### Discussion – How do we want to be out on the streets right now?

- Jennifer framed the discussion: How do we want to be activists?
  - Do we want to return to the character of some of the actions we used before Covid?
  - Small free form actions?

- Actions from one's home.
  - Follow young people/people of color
- Eve: Not in a hurry to return to indoor actions; comfortable with big and smaller outdoor actions as long as we are masking up;
- Jay: Recalled a demo (Israel demo?) with a very gridlike formation, carefully planned and spaced which created an impactful image.
  - Eve:
    - <https://www.axios.com/israel-black-flag-protests-coronavirus-netanyahu-0a984050-9438-42ee-8126-e624e7427fc1.html>
  - Jenny: controlled by the police
  - More than 2,000 Israelis stood 6 feet apart in Tel Aviv's Rabin Square on Sunday to protest what they consider the erosion of democracy under the coronavirus-era government of Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Haaretz reports.
  - The "Black Flag" demonstrations, which began in March, are a response to stringent coronavirus policies that include phone tracking for civilians.
  - Police marked spots on the ground where protesters could stand, and organizers were required to provide participants with masks, Haaretz notes.
- Jamie: initially we did photo ops because we had no audience on the street;
  - Now there is more opportunity to be witnessed;
  - The value of surprise actions can be great.
- Mark H: Social media spread is really important
- Mary: Design new banners. Jealous of Gays against Guns banner. Gilbert Baker banner is missing; apparently Cleve Jones has one; Jamie: Rick-made banner;
  - Mary offered to take this on.
- Mike D: Very important for RaR to be visible in multiracial actions; also think about November. Focus on how horrible the state of the local budget is and tie it to Federal level.
  - Healthcare crisis, eviction moratorium is ending. We need a national bailout.
  - Trump is an existential threat.
- Lynn: counting all the actions we are doing, including possible action around Putin's bounty.
- Jay: Should we promote the actions further?
- Jamie: We can say socially distanced, masks required;
  - Reality is we are not fully socially distanced these days;
  - Do we need to be as strict about those optics as we were?
  - When people stand far apart we lose visibility
- Susan: people were not wearing masks at first BLM marches; then people made masks available, and now many more people wore them .
  - We should be providing masks
- Donna: We should not be too grandiose; small actions.
  - Prison related
    - Covid behind bars = death; link this to decarceration.
- Rick: Be very careful about social distancing.
  - We want to be together, so we need to model that;
  - people should not be put in positions where they get swept up into crowds
- Alexandra: We have learned a lot during these times: Value of small actions; importance of collaborating with others;
  - Themes: decarceration and covid in prisons = death,

- healthcare: inequity in hospital beds by boro
- Heather: challenges of travel, very hard to keep social distance;
  - live streaming should be an option.
  - Very clear action plan.
    - We saw that with the Covid in Prisons actions; great incentive to follow up.
- Jennifer: RaR has always had an education component.
- Mary H: @justiceforgeorge keeps a mailing list and social media feeds that list all of the marches around the city on a daily basis.
  - We should make sure that anything we organize gets to them.
- Ann/Simone: Use Livestream more to bring in more people

### Finance

- Susan L: \$12600 which is \$100 less than last week.
- Jackie: Broadway Cares gave us the \$10,000 because Viola loves our group.
  - Check will arrive this week.

### Non Rise and Resist announcements

**Students For Justice Project:** Sandy is working with Claire U. on this

- Program launched today
- 65 Students are participating from different colleges, many first generation.
- Internship will focus on voter registration, motivating the youth vote; there will be guest lectures.
- We need to raise funds, as we have incurred quite a lot of expenses. Has put a request for funds on FB page
  - <https://www.dropbox.com/s/fckncvjfus2zwpq/Fundraising%20Descrip%20for%20Facebook%20%281%29.docx?dl=0>
- Donna will send emails requesting funds.

**Campaign for Elected Civilian Review Board:** Rally planned Friday, 2 pm, July 3 at Foley Square with march to City Hall

- Heather: <https://www.facebook.com/events/194033728662616>
  - Independent of AG office.
- Jamie: More discussion tomorrow night at Actions via Zoom.

**Confronting July 4: March to honor Black and Indigenous Activists:** Fort Greene Park at Willoughby Ave. to Prospect Park 15<sup>th</sup> St. entrance 2:30 pm July 4, Saturday.

- Lorenzo : REVOLTING LESBIANS Don't celebrate white supremacy this 4th of July. Join us!
  - There will be a celebration featuring speakers, performers, and DJs - including @resistancerevivalchorus, Sadiq Bellamy of @soulsummitmusic, and more to be announced - starting at 5. [https://www.instagram.com/p/CCERX\\_aj7Q/](https://www.instagram.com/p/CCERX_aj7Q/)

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