Report Backs

DC - Tim, Jennifer Bartlett

JB

- I think it’s important that everyone try to go to DC if they can, it was extremely difficult for two reasons (I want to give a shout out to Wendy/Alvin/Ann), without them I would have had a very hard time, and without them Tim was great in helping me
- With Congress it’s important to see how shitty they are in person, they lie, they sneak away from you, they say that the gallery is full when it’s not, seeing protesters crying in the hallway because they are being ignored.
- I cannot believe the stuff that I saw.
- They had interns there who were lying and saying they were congressional aides, and wouldn’t write down accounts, etc

I told Paul (the organizer) I wouldn’t do this via social media but I would talk about it in the meeting, but I experienced really bad ableism through their group

I personally won’t do anything again with them until they have training about how to handle people’s’ disabilities

Tim

- Zach and Tim were arrested in the gallery, trial on January 10th in Superior Court at 9:30, for disruption of Congress
- 1/28 will be the Women’s March, on that same day DT will be meeting with all the GOP governors at a resort, so please reach out to Tim and Betsy to sign up/find out for more info

Betsy

- I had a different experience of DC then JB, there were a number of people in wheelchairs, etc.
- I went 4 different times and have been arrested 3 times

JB

- People in wheelchairs are different than the elderly, those with physical disabilities, who cannot move as easily/quickly

Jeremiah
• In my one experience in going down to DC, incredible gratitude for the organizers
• There were people who were waiting in court and miscommunication left them without a legal rep
• There were issues of the church that we were staying at too, for me (JJ)
• I think it’s good information to have that this group is not necessarily very adaptable to differences

Martin
• I have heard more of JB’s situation and this was only a touch on it
• We are in a position to help educate our coalition so this is opportunity to be receptive to feedback

Video Group - Deborah, Catherine

• We have re-launched our youtube channel, if you can please subscribe to the channel, because the more we have the more that our videos show up for other people
• We are taking a lot of video at our actions, some behind the scenes, etc
• Our parody videos for political satire
• We have 80 subscribers so far, which is not enough, we need at least 100
  bit.ly/rarvideo
• If you’re interested to join, please reach out to us

Stew
• Are you thinking of doing educational videos too?

Deb
• Yes, in fact we have a video with education about the Russia/Putin sitch with a thorough explanation by someone who is a Russian citizen
• We do also let people come to us with the projects they want to work on though, so feel free to pitch ideas!

Impeach action report backs - Jamie, Martin

We went on 12/
We went up on the public plaza that had been blocked off in front of the Trump International Hotel and the police only made one weak attempt to move us and it is public
This was our first visioning action where we had mostly just positive signs of the things that we did want
Martin
In front of Twitter HQ
Jackie, Kenn, Jay performed the script as Trump and Obama, etc

Fox 230K views
Trump 23K views

*Donation bags*
$352

*Working Groups*

**Finance/Fundraising - Susan, Dann**
tshirts online
*$9512 in the bank*

**BoD and annual meeting - Jeremiah, Jamie**

The annual meeting is happening in January
At the Center from 6-8 on January 8th
To discuss our finances and officially elect a Board of Directors, and discuss any changes to the bylaws

Jamie

- We did put it to a vote if this would happen at the same time as a normal meeting and the floor at the time voted for it to be separate, but you are free to attend

Mark H
- Isn’t there an established need for attendance to vote for this meeting?

Jeremiah

- There should be around 10 members present according to the bylaws for things to be most official
- Secretary, Treasurer, and Chair of the Board are the required positions (Ivy, Martin, and Jamie, as of now)
• We may need other people to step forward if this officers no longer want to serve

Jamie

• We will discuss that at the meeting

Susan

• What finances are being discussed? I’m not aware of Finance preparing anything to be presented

Martin

• Just a year end summary (Susan said ok)

ERT and Mueller action on Wednesday - Claire, Aiesha, Andy

• We voted in favor of the Hands Off Mueller Action, we need floor approval
• Jamie/Tom explain the action
  ○ We are part of a national coalition that will go out if Mueller is fired by the WH OR Congress
  ○ We are worried about the idea of waiting till after the fact
  ○ Tomorrow at 5:30, 43rd and Bway, 15 signs two-sided, “The world’s eyes are on you” “Hands of Mueller”
  ○ We are doing a moving picket across Bway and two blocks, using the signal to cross the street and show our signs
  ○ We need about 15 people and a few marshals
• Jake Tolan
  ○ I am not sure why this went to the ERT if this action was going to be happening AFTER a full group meeting
• Tom
  ○ We decided to do it because every night on TV they were putting down the FBI on the floor of Congress, and we were worried about the timing
• Jamie
  ○ If there were a general meeting last week we would not have gone to the ERT
• Andy
  ○ In the event that anyone gets interviewed his name is pronounced “Muller”

**Vote passes for the endorsement of the ERT vote**
ERT
We have a current vacancy and need another member

- Kenn
  - Do the proposed members have to be from specific working groups?
- Claire
  - No, that is not a formalized process, and with the amount of turnover it seems that it will be too hard to maintain, although Finance, Comms, and Actions are currently represented

Approved Actions

Tom Cat bakery video
We are looking for people to do research on the restaurants that are most likely to drop the bread, by a soft ask of us just going to them or by us flyering them
  - Emily in Ft Green, The Smith at 57th and 5th, Brooklyn Brewery, Gourmet Garage,
Reach out to Jeanne
We will continue to be out in front of Rober(t)

Elections
Shery
We are working towards helping to deconstruct the IDC
We were asked to do a teach-in
Zephyr Teachout is going to be coming to teach us about the IDC in great detail
She is a great progressive lawyer
Former candidate for Governor against Cuomo as a Progressive
Will give a thorough overview of the political landscape
We want to ask if it would be ok to invite outside groups to come and listen to her, especially coalition members

What is the timing going to be?

Shery
Usually the guest had spoken in the middle of the meeting

Paul
I was going to suggest that maybe we would move her up in our agenda
Shery
That would be up to facilitation

Jeanne
Facilitation would be willing to work around that

Mel
Is she a politician?
Shery
No she had formerly run but is not currently and it would not be an endorsement

Her video has been really popular on Twitter so it would be great for us to have her

Feel free to come prepared with questions for her

Jay
There are two State Senate seats that are vacant and there’s a push to ask Cuomo to call special elections

Deb
We have a place in our YouTube channel to recommend

All those in favor of allowing people from outside orgs to come? Approved

**January 6**

Susan
We have had a first great year and had a great end of year discussion
So now we want to have a start of year discussion about how to better implement our ideas
Saturday, Jan 6th 2:30-4pm at The Center in rm 10

**Impeach Action**

Martin - checkoutthatlady@gmail.com
Thursday 1/4 - Emoluments Clause
Any volunteers for greater representation for the town criers
In Grand Central Terminal - 5:30pm

1/11
Maybe sexual assault at Fox News again?
Unscheduled otherwise, so anyone feel free to propose ideas

1/18
Tom, Lorenzo, Scott, Betsy
The winter garden atrium under the trees
With the radical faeries
Mother Nature will be reading the call for Impeachment
The attendees are encouraged to dress up as animals/nature figures
5:30pm, it’s a public space privately managed, so security can only ask you to leave
We can go into the Oculus for a moving picket if needed
We are in coalition with about 12 environmental orgs, (sierra club, sane energy project, the American Indian Community House)
There will be face painting
There will be a pamphlet with a map of the hotspots of environment affected by recent changes, the articles of impeachment, Scott Pruitt/EPA, Dept of the Interior
Jeremiah
I think this sounds awesome, especially with the coalition building, and I hope that we keep doing this going into the new year

Scott
Please let us know if you think that there are other environmental groups that we should reach out to

Tom
We are hoping to get as many kids as involved as possible, for the “future of the planet”

1/25 Impeachment will be centered around racism, please reach out to Martin

New Actions

Jamie/Kellen
Vague Action
Around the State of the union, “State of Disgrace” - “The whole world is watching”
About opposing the normalization of Trump’s speech, and calling on everyone to point out and oppose his lies
There will be several components, people who are encouraged to be arrested, people who *may* be arrested but might leave if they get a warning though that is not guaranteed, and support
It will be discussed at the Actions committee meetings and will likely have a special meeting for anyone interested to come talk about it together. A budget of around $400 for posters, banners, and noisemakers.

I have some giant eye props I can contribute if you want it.

Jamie
Yes, we have been very careful about messaging because though our Oculus creaming was really cathartic it doesn’t help others to know how to engage with us. The SOU is on 1/30, but we don’t have a set date for the action, but it will be around that time.

***Vote for Approval - Passed, potentially unanimously

Approach Maryellen, Jamie if interested, will be communicating via email.

1/31 and 2/1 Coalition action (Wed and Thurs) - Mark Milano
Trump met with GOP congress people in Philly and around 10K protesters turned out. Green Briar resort in W VA on 1/31.
W VA healthy kids is a major organizer.
There will be buses going.
There will be hotels to stay over if wanted/needed.

Donna
Can you say more about the action? And who will be involved?

Mark
There will be a call tomorrow to plan more specifics, please approach for more details

Stew
If we will don’t know till tomorrow, can’t we find out and vote next week?

Will there be a CD component?

Jamie
Do we want to talk about endorsement vs co-sponsorship? What exactly are we being asked to do to act as co-sponsors? In terms of people, finance, etc.
I feel uncomfortable to sponsor without a budget proposal.
Mark
I don’t see us taking on more than the $200 that we allocate per action, I just want our resources to be mobilized behind this. I like that it is proactive so I would like us to be involved as much as possible.

Jake Tolan
I believe we discussed having a waiting period once something has been brought to the floor so that we get a more complete idea

Mark
Any additional budget could be brought back to the floor to be voted down either way

Tom
I attended the Philly action, which was great, but it was a rally with speakers, and are we to be involved?

Mark H
Can we table this until next week once we have more details after the call?

Straw poll for vote now or later is split 50/50

JB

Based on my earlier comments I will not be willing to cosponsor or endorse until they address the issue of their ableism

Mark
I would accept an endorsement for now

***Vote for endorsement - Passed, some opposed and abstaining

An incomplete history of protest - Andy
76 dif artist and photogs
At the Whitney
Normally is $25 for tickets,
Friday from 7-10 you can pay what you wish sliding scale
Putting together a trip
Potentially meeting for dinner around 7pm
Straw poll between this week and next week
1/12 Approved

**Heritage of Pride - Jake**
On Monday all the registration fees will be going up instead of free
I did research and contacted people
We don't know what happened to all of the protestors
HOP did not specifically push charges but was not very helpful either
I think we could spend around $1K and do even more than we did last year

Ray
I would suggest we register for free for now and discuss all of our well-founded concerns after

Jake
There are a few things that we need to get from them that we will want immediately

Alex L
What are the things we want from them?

Jake
HOP is bureaucratic
Closer to the front, be grouped with other political groups, etc

Wrolf
Some of the protestors were just given 1-3 days of community service

Kenn
I was involved in planning last year, I started talking to them in Feb, and we went en masse to the first meeting at March
I have not spoken to them since this summer, but we left off pretty clearly that both sides thought that we would continue to be involved
But that we definitely have some ongoing conversation
We were originally told that we could only have 4 groups, but we persisted and ending up getting 28 groups to participate
Did they tell us that we would be at the front and then let the politicians in front of us? Yes, it definitely had complications
But it was also so empowering to get people to participate in our chants with us and it is seen around the world, we were in newspapers all around the world
I think that we should be able to make that happen again

Donna
As a person who made a lot of contacts for coalition building
Many of the groups that we involved were then mistreated by HOP I think that that looked poorly for us
Jake
Part of the reason that was a problem was just because of how HOP was slow to move about the process
Kenn
I heard form representation of each group thanking us and asking if we are going to do it again

Mark
I would vote to endorse this with a friendly amendment and also begin a working group with Act UP who are debating participating based on the police presence for the candlelight vigil

Jake
I want to say that we definitely can, and if HOP goes off the rails we can always pull out

Susan
I was in with the raging grannies and we were definitely connected

Jay
On the day of pride, I went through the entire block and everyone was very happy to be there and none of HOP issues reflected on us

Alex L
I would not have been here without our participation in Pride, nor would Susan

Kenn
Pride will happen either way, but we can help decide whether or not we are represented, I hope that we register for free and go from there

Mark H
Just to be clear we are discussing about putting together another resistance contingent

Jake
Yes

***Passed, seemingly unanimously

Stew
A lot of people are talking about coalition building and I want to set up, in the warm weather, resistance recruitment booths (tabling hours)
To make signs and get people involved and talk about how to be better involved
waldman@mikaya.com

I think this is a way for us to get out of just where we are and sell Tshirts

Jeremiah
Are we going to participate in the women’s march in DC?
We are doing a part in the NYC march instead
Last year we participated in both
Are we interested in trying to get to DC?
Who can lead to help organize that?

Leslie
The team that organized the DC march last year are now doing an event in Las Vegas this year that is their focus
So DC may be under a different team

Jeremiah
Straw poll (interest to participate in NYC)
Marlene

Betsy
There are two empty State Senate seats (normally held by Dems) as of January 1st he could have called a special election but hasn’t
We are asking for the website to include a countdown clock for how long it has been since he did not take action

Eve
How much will it cost?

Betsy
I don’t know that there is a cost

Harris
Is it possible to have an event where everyone will be asked to call him?

Betsy
Yes, but we don't have a specific event planned

***Vote is Approved for Clock

Livvie
We have been working with the Working Families party to call voters in the districts of the State Senators that are participating in the IDC
The goal was to get 1K pledges form voters in the 8 districts, and we have already hit the goal at some of our
Rachel
There is a FB event already

Jay
President's Day action
jayw.walker@gmail.com
Sunday the 7th

**Non RAR Announcements**

Lisa
I am a member of Indivisible SF and live in the Bay Area, it was inspirational to hear you all talk
We have someone from ^ that wrote a book on political intimidation if anyone is interested

Andy
Friday at 5:30pm at Grand Central
There is a rally to free Ahed Tamimi
She is a teen girl who was arrested for slapping the arm of an Israeli soldier and is being charged by Israel
Harris
Now that it’s a new year, and we are doing this positive visioning, and there are elections that are coming and change that will be happening. So how can we get involved to continue to find productive ways to help.