



501c3/c4 Council Meeting Agenda
7:00 pm, Monday, June 17th, 2019
Metro Justice Office

Convened at 7:00pm

Attending: Aaron, Charlie, Crescenzo, Christine, Andrew, Danya, Marcus, Michael, Mohini, Alexis, Clare, Wilma, Julie, Robert.

- **7:00-7:05 Opening Remarks / Aaron.**
- **7:05-7:40 Campaign Committee Reports**
 - Healthcare Committee / (Mohini) Closer to realization than ever before. We now have custody of the Campaign for NY Health's Rochester list. Gauging willingness of statewide allies to do civil disobedience targeting insurance industry targets. Hoping to partner with SEIU and VOCAL on this locally. Charlie and Danya will be doing base-building and outreach for healthcare committee. Supposedly there are hearing to be held throughout the state, after legislative session is over. That means vote on it next year.
 - Climate Justice Committee / Aaron. Discussing potential campaigns, strong start to committee. Drafted criteria for strategic campaign. [Listed criteria.] Next meeting early July, probably a Wednesday.
 - Criminal Justice Committee / Mohini. Last major lobby day. Want more folks down in Albany Wednesday, but don't think we'll have much capacity given the notice. Marijuana legalization might win this session or not. Looks like they might pass weaker decriminalization legislation instead. Gotta pressure Heastie, Stewart-Cousins, and Cuomo. Committee reconvening soon to reassess toward base-building beyond marijuana.
 - LGBT Committee / Christine. This month accounts for a full half of the YTD murder of trans people. Police department in Detroit provided armed escort to Nazi's countering Pride. Particular imperative to get cops out of Pride. Out Alliance has been talked to about this several times (both recently and not). Recently had 24-minute virtual facebook live discussion that wasn't announced until 3 days prior and was in the middle of a workday. Dismissive of concerns on this. Not being responsive to trans community, or queers of color. MJ has participated in Pride last few years. Christine favors not participating in Pride, and perhaps countering in some way. No Cops at Pride group meeting to form this weekend, plans unclear as of yet. Christine, Dina Giovanelli, and Ryan from Empire Justice involved. (Mohini) Are there other organizations on our side on this? EiE and VOCAL likely would be. July 20th date of Pride. We'll need more specifics before we could support a counter-event. Could MJ

move the Out Alliance on this? Last year, we had a sizeable contingent whose messaging was explicitly against police violence, to which there was some hostility. This has come up for each of the last few years. Pride has become such a lucrative and large event, Out Alliance could call the City's bluff if they cared to. Labor doesn't pay for cops for labor day parade. Something's not adding up here. Christine will report back on upcoming meeting to Exec so we can decide things sooner. Social media, podcasts, media pressure from us may move the Alliance?

- **7:40-8:10 Council Committee Reports**

- Nominations Committee / Aaron. We have committee now. Chair needs to be a Council member, which means Mahima, Crescenzo, or Christine. Mahima's doing a lot of other stuff, also not present. Christine volunteers, fine with Crescenzo. Nadine has resigned from Council (going through tough time personally, we wish her well). That's one open seat. Possibly nominating Bruce. Nominations should, to start, be focused on current Council members, who is returning next year, finding other new members. Would be nice to do more process-oriented engagement/prep for Council elections. 2 open seats (Nadine's, Aaron's). Tracey's staying. Michael suggests we could approach losers of the upcoming election?
- Treasury and Finance Committees / Marcus. Second quarter finance meeting 6/10. Jay presented 6/4 profit and loss statement. Total income as of June 4 already at 50%, expenses at 44%. Salary expense has a lag, should expect it to catch up. Expecting workers Comp line item to go up next year. Increased income from special appeal letter, special matching donations. Cash flow will be tight throughout summer. Plan to liquidate CD3. Jay mentioned still in running for \$9k DPA grant. Discussed having budgets for individual campaign. Mainly for Healthcare, Criminal Justice, and Climate Justice. Budgets are often needed for grants anyway. Biggest item on these would be distribution of Mohini's staff-time. We should expect budgets to come with proposals. John pointed out discrepancy between expected and real deficit. Growing at a slower than expected rate. Next meeting should be ready to present a revised budget, hopefully with a smaller deficit. Saving a bit on Jay's time and healthcare. John sent Marcus some old worksheets he's used for taxes. (Michael) Was there any discussion of lowering risk level of the investments? (Marcus) No, but will next time. Everyone on Council should continue to make calls to follow up on the special appeal. Copy of minutes and updated budgets available from Marcus. We've raised \$7,000 on 2-3 Council members' calls (and they were mostly voicemails, at that). There's script, database, and everything else we need sent out, will get bumped up in the email thread.
- Racial Justice Initiative / Robert. Michael introduced Wilma, who has a proposal. National conference and regional symposia on white privilege by Privilege Institute. Having day and a half symposium in Rochester. Ask RJI to be host for symposium. Hoping to attract 4-500 teachers, social workers, faith community, activists to

conference as well as students (Roc to Change involved). We'd like MJ to be host. We had a host location at St John Fisher, but college President backed out. What we need now is a non-profit to be local host for symposium. Entails having our name on publicity, doesn't require any staff time. Includes several local noteworthies, including former MJ President Paula Hansen. We're searching for a new location, but not asking that of us. Asking Third Presbyterian and DUPC for that. Yusef Salam of Central Park 5, among others. Hoping to get Oren Lyons of the Onondaga Nation. Danielle Ponder performing for keynote. "Hoping to get indigenous people to perform." This is a solely a fundraiser for the privilege institute. Any excess of receipts above expenses will be considered a donation to the Privilege Institute. Passed around a handout. Christine asks why MJ is needed as host. (Wilma) Mostly we need a host for the privilege institute, who ask for an organization (local folks are informal). There's also an example MoU. Mohini asks about development of content. Not asking for fiscal sponsorship. Just need local 501c3 to vouch for the informal committee. Kit Miller from Gandhi House and Wilma co-chairs. TPI must approve location, budget. Wilma and Kit each have a million dollars in liability insurance for this. Julie asked for door costs. Wilma says \$100 for adults to register, \$50 for students. Kit is looking into getting sponsors for students. Andrew asks about list-sharing. Wilma says yes. As host we'll have list access. November 15-16 (just after election). Could use answer ASAP. Aaron wants to read the agreement, send questions to Wilma. Aaron says we'll have an answer sometime by next Council. Exec. meeting on 7/1/19 can decide this. CampRose209@gmail.com is Wilma's contact. Program committee will decide content based on proposals they're soliciting. (Michael) Racial Justice Committee will meet in a month and plan to then make plans for white supremacy education series. Supposed to meet with Evelyn. Regarding Jalil Muntaqim's continued campaign for clemency from Governor Cuomo. Was able to get a letter from black and latino caucus of NYS legislature supporting clemency. Rosemary Rivera met with one of Heastie's staff. Has parole hearing coming up in September. Letter going around welcoming him to Rochester, since he'd like to live here once free. Has letters from Desmond Tutu, Angela Davis, etc.

- **8:10-8:40pm Discussion of Strategic Criteria for Campaign Prioritization.** (Andrew) At last Council, we discussed selecting Core Campaign. Denise, Aaron, Mohini, Andrew have outlined some. What are the goals? What resources do we have? Racial Justice lens questions. Revolutionary Edge of Reform questions. Allies/Opponents, Targets? Andrew to send out this document to Council. Reviewed Healthcare, Climate, Criminal Justice. Both Climate and Criminal Justice have significant opportunities for student and neighborhood organizing.
- **8:40-8:50pm Staff Reports**
 - Lead Organizer / Mohini. 2 major solidarity areas are with CWTU and RRRN. Mohini, Jake, Shenzi. Last meeting fell apart, for reasons somewhat unknown but related to rent control fight and legislative session. Hopefully know more Wednesday.

Greyhound campaign launch. About 1/3 of attendees were MJ members. Working on building a formal MJ/RRRN relationship is. About to have that conversation, but the WJCNY is going through transitions (Carly Fox leaving) so conversation on hold. Developing campaign criteria. Have ready for “genuine deliberation” for July. Interns doing great work. Mohini also working on DPA grant application. Working with Andrew to get MJ financially independent of grants within 5 years (aim to launch by July). Reconvening Criminal Justice Committee. RCSD Student Union work, Mohini and Denise had a second meeting with RTA. Gonna put together a core team soon. Wrote (really good) statement against state takeover of RCSD. (Denise) Candace Ruben asked if we knew about event CANY’s organizing at City Hall tomorrow evening. Mention of CPE, other potential allies. RTA planning to be there tomorrow evening to read statement. Council meeting starts at 7, probably early start at 6. Need leader to sign up to speak and read our statement. Christine can go, but thinks statement would be better made by somebody on Exec. 6:30pm is start time of the action. Crescenzo volunteers to give statement. Gotta call by 5:30pm. Better to be at the start than at the end. Mohini will be on vacation this Friday through July 1.

- Fundraising and Membership Director / Andrew. Vacation in August. Interns have been great at coming up with fundraisers. Next week will be a viewing party for the second Democratic Presidential Primary Debate (with wine). First week of July (pending location) have candidates guest bartend, hopefully in a venue where we can have some kind of music as well. Third fundraiser’s a spaghetti dinner around next Primary debate, gonna reach out to First Unitarian (July 30 or 31). Little Theater tickets went out today. Gonna revisit house party fundraiser idea with committee.

- **8:50-9:00pm Task Force Reports**

- ROCLA / Grania. Report submitted in writing. Grania’s encouraging ROCLA to name another representative to Council.
- PA&E / Doug. Absent, no report.
- Ciudad Hermana / Michael. Had to leave early. No report.

Adjourned: 9:15pm