

Jacobi Meeting -- 11/26/2012

Drew: "So, we're here tonight to have a meeting. Is there... anything I should know about this meeting, et cetera?"

Tammy: "Why are we meeting?"

Drew: "So we don't know why we're meeting. Does anyone know why we're meeting here?"

Tammy says Brett knows.

Brett: "As I think everyone knows, Jacobi is closing on the 30th -- Friday. There have been lots of discussions about finding new spaces; folks including Juan Carlos are starting to look into getting a new space, but the questions that kept coming up couldn't really be answered without us having an intentional conversation about, what exactly do we want? So that's the conversation we need to have; I can frame some other things as well. But we're here to talk about what is the future of Jacobi."

Drew: "Can you express any of those questions?"

Brett: "Yeah, so some of it was, like, do we want another large-scale distribution hub? So, do we need a warehouse; does it need... I mean, the kitchen thing has been answered, but basically what is the service that a new space -- or what needs would a new space be looking to meet? Both in terms of the communities and the folks organizing out of it -- I think our needs should be taken into consideration as well. So, looking at this hub in relation to the network and the community should be part of it."

Drew asks us to intro ourselves, say a sentence or two about what we've been doing, and one other surprise.

Lauren: "I've been doing car coordination here sometimes, and my birthday is tomorrow! Yay. Thanks, I'm turning 27 on the 27th. I know, once in a lifetime."

Peter: "I'm here from Cleveland; here for about a week. Been floating around... a couple days at Neptune, a couple in the Rockaways -- odds and ends, getting a feel for what's going on around here. And what's surprising? I know 5 people that just got sentenced on Federal terrorism charges. Yay."

Ooh.

Ronnie: "I was an early site coordinator at Jacobi, and then I started doing money stuff, and now I'm on the ground at Far Rockaway. Most surprising thing about me is I don't like money."

Pablo: "I've been -- I started car coordination before there was car coordination, and then I've been doing all sorts of stuff - site coordination, helping people cooking, running around. I made lentils today! And something surprising... I don't know. I dance salsa?"

Shlomo: "I do this and that around the place... and yeah. Hopefully we'll have a place to all hang out together."

Drew: "A hangout spot." Laughs.

Jubilee: "I'm the other Clevelander, and I walked a dog on the beach today who's blind." Aww.

"I'm a floater; go to SI, sometimes CI."

Nick: "I've been working on housing people who lost their homes or they were damaged during the storm, as well as trying to house OS volunteers from out of town who need housing while they're here."

Marcos: "I'm working on the floor; something about me is... I lost somebody two and a half...."

Dacey: "I take minutes. I was here in Jacobi in the early days helping to get it set up and coordinate comms. Have been stepped back for a minute to get my shit together... still haven't done that yet. Hahah."

Casper: "I've been helping coordinate and organizing locations in CI and other locaitons, just popping in and establishing sites; my Russian's really good, so I can translate, and I've been helping individuals who speak Russian to go to FEMA and get help. It's really hard for the immigrants when they're afraid to open themselves up, and something surprising I think -- I've been clean for 3 years starting today." Yay.

K: "I fill in the gaps. I was a bartender for 8 years and I used to be a florist. I don't know if that's surprising."

Shlomo: "I like musical theatre." Hahah, shocking.

Tammy: "I was an early site coordinator here, and I really couldn't tell you what the hell I do now, but I just do a lot of stuff. I guess I helped set up a lot of things and then moved on, so now.. doing stuff. And I don't know what's surprising about me. I was home over Thanksgiving, and cleaning out my house, and reading all these old journals and realizing that nothing about myself now is surprising based on who I was as a child."

Eric: "I started here three weeks ago doing car coordination and I've slowly phased out of that to, as K said, filling in the gaps. But usually on site here, so site coordination in a way. I do a lot of logistics stuff, trying to keep people in coordination, and been doing medical supply. A surprising thing about me... I don't know, i'll have to come back."

Ronnie: "You're not amish."

Eric: "Yeah, I'm neither Amish or Muslim. But that's not that surprising."

Robin: "I'm working on the floor down there with Marcus. My jobs in the past have included working at a Blockbuster store and working as a slave to finance executives. So, I'm here."

Carrie: "I spent my first week here on the floor dealing with clothes mountain before we stopped accepting clothes. Since then, been working on social media, and doing some media liaison stuff with folks who want to cover us in some way. My most surprising job was as a tour guide at a cave."

Tara: "I started on the Cel.ly downstairs, and that kind of -- eventually that ended and now I just do a lot of random things. And... surprising? I'm not an original occupier? So this has been kind of an adventure for me. Thanks guys."

Tess: "I in the first couple days sort of started to fall into the role of plugging gaps. And I guess I've sort of

been doing that mostly. I'm not really sure what I've been doing. Been trying to think about just the birds-eye view of the whole operation and how all of the pieces fit together and how to make that clear and accessible to everyone who's in it and outside of it, and not doing a very good job of it -- it's really hard. And I don't know what's surprising about me. I used to work at Vogue?"

Howie: "I started off here -- I think the first Sunday, went to SI -- got back, got pulled into doing dispatch and have been doing that ever since. And I too used to be a finance slave."

Tim: "I worked Comms here, and now I'm working in the Bay Ridge kitchen. And I moved here a month and 13 days ago."

Drew: "A fresh New Yorker over here."

Brett: "The first couple days when I came in, I was doing social media stuff... quickly handed that off to Tara and Carrie. I've been site coordinating for most of the last... however long we've been here. My goal has not been to necessarily have the answer to every question, but to know who does, and lately have been trying to get out at least for half-days to the Rockaways -- with Dalit and K to get more face-time with the coordinators out there to make sure we're meeting their needs, since that's why we're here. This is not totally surprising, but Peter of PPM just texted me. I'm voluntarily houseless and am about to move in with Pablo for a little bit. And I'll rummage through all of his drawers." Hahah.

Dalit: "I started out working on the floor, and now I've been doing different things, going onsite with Brett, and doing different things -- teaching people about mold; learned a lot myself; don't have the answers for how to get people to care about it yet. And a surprising thing about me is I played the drums for a couple of years. Not very well."

Drew: "I do a lot of -- been a long-time occupier working with Tech and IT. And I guess what's surprising is that with all this time, I couldn't come up with anything surprising about myself."

That's it.

Drew: "So, the one agenda point we have is the next location -- what do we need/want from it, what should it be? Is there any other agenda points that anyone has that they'd like to bring up for consideration by the group?"

Tammy: "Exit strategy?"

Eric: "Mine is related to that -- a point of info and talking point. I was speaking to Juan Carlos last night, and he was asking me to let you all know, so we could discuss it tonight, about the possibility that we could continue to use the portion of space, specifically the stage area... they need it one day a week or less."

Howie: "What's the wi-fi situation there for office work?"

Eric: "We can wire it. Can run a cable back there."

Drew asks someone to take stack. "Stack is... a line to speak, and if you get on stack, the stacktaker will use their discretion to move people who haven't spoken up to the top."

Tess will take stack.

Drew: "So, if you want to get on stack to speak, just eye Tess. I'm going to open stack up for points of information that are going to inform the discussion about moving."

Pablo: "Point of information; I also talked to Juan Carlos yesterday; he mentioned that the Episcopal Church in Bay Ridge where the kitchen is has also offered us office space on the second floor. The only issue is we could not use it for inventory and storage. The kitchen's already used up most of their available storage space, so we'd then have to compete with the kitchen operation; I know that's something we don't want to do."

Tammy: "I'm pretty certain that Clinton is going to be closing as well... it may not be by the end of this week. Whatever -- what makes me feel funny is it feels like there's holistic needs of food preparation, volunteer intake, and stuff intake, and comms, and it feels funny to me to have the conversation as Jacobi and Clinton separately, because we're all going to need the same thing."

Drew: "So, perhaps as we're framing this discussion, it can be something that -- the outcome, it might be best to have something to present to the meeting tomorrow night that's supposed to be everyone, saying Jacobi came together and we found these potential solutions. If that feels like a good plan."

More folks coming in.

Greg will introduce himself. "I'm Greg; I'm one of the site coordinators with Luke of St. Gertrude, Beach 38 in the Rockaways, which is also a hub for everything that Occupy Sandy is doing in Eastern Rockaways, formerly called Far Rockaway."

Drew: "OK, thank you; let's jump back into stack. And if you have a point of info about the discussion..."

Tim: "Father David at St. John's church is really generous, and we can use the sanctuary not for storage of any kind but for volunteer orientation, except when he's having storage." That's the Bay Ridge spot.

Tammy: "When is he having service?"

Tim: "Sunday... I can double check if there's other services."

Shlomo: "Is that where the kitchen is?"

Tim: "Yes."

Brett: "So, just to clarify on the intent, in response to Tammy's comment -- initially when we called for this meeting we were under the impression that Clinton was under no immediate closing deadline, so part of this meeting was to address potential concerns with folding our operation into Clinton. If both sites are being lost then there is a larger conversation that needs to happen. But there are other options than just coordinators here doing warehouse-type distribution."

Ronnie: "My understanding has been that they know about the sanctuary being off-limits after a certain point, but the comms upstairs" is fine.

Eric: "What about the basement?"

Ronnie: "I don't know anything about the basement."

Drew: "The kitchen at 520 has been shut down, and that's what I've heard as well, that the sanctuary will not be used for storing things."

Tammy: "It's unclear -- I've heard very different things from people who are all people who know what's going on. So not a clear answer. And part of our struggle is having comms in different places; if we're moving operations I think there's a question about why we would keep comms in separate places as well."

Howie: "I think at this point, it would make most sense, if both sites are going to have to close, to combine coms. We have somewhat of a flow here, but we've trickled down enough that if we have one site to handle everything it may make things easier at times."

Shlomo: "For people who've been working coms are there concerns about how that transition might occur?"

Tess puts up a point of process. "I think we're jumping the gun a bit, because we haven't gotten anywhere close to talking about what we're going to do. So the concerns about coms will have to be addressed at that point."

Shlomo: "That's a fair triangle."

Casper: RE: exit strategy, "we should make sure the material that needs to go out is ready... or if we abandon ship give all the stuff to the sites first."

Drew: "So maybe the way to start this conversation is to start with the exit strategy and then talk about what we do next. Does that sound like a good...? So in terms of an exit strategy -- Friday -- can we quickly popcorn out longer discussion topics, so I'm thinking of web presence -- making sure that a team of people go through and remove all the web presence -- so we can talk more, but those kinds of things. So web strategy is one -- anyone else?"

Casper: "Bringing volunteers to help."

Drew: "The day of?"

Casper: "Or the day before; might be a 2-3 day situation."

Pablo: "We need trucks, so if 520 has a fleet, maybe we should reserve it for that operation."

Eric: "Two -- one, the idea of stopping taking donations and redirecting at a certain point in the week; second is cleanup and rehab of the space once we're out."

Tammy: "I don't know when it's going to go yet, but all the info up on the walls shouldn't be lost or thrown away."

Tess: "I think probably Juan Carlos would be amenable to - if we stopped using this space as an operational space Friday, and then used following days to clean up and get it in order. He'd probably be OK with that."

And in addition to goods to move out and store, there's also all the office stuff."

Tara: "I think we should take note of the supplies we've used of Jacobi's, and try to leave them with replacements."

Pablo: "And I think we should recognize the cost overruns this place has incurred while we're here -- electricity, etc."

Casper: "We should ask Justin, because of that whole concert. And we had a meeting with the Pastor himself and he said we could have a little corner in the basement."

Tammy: "Thank you cards?"

Dalit: "Re: web presence, not only taking us off there, but also getting the word out to volunteers so they know not to come donate or volunteer here."

Ronnie: "Going away party?"

Tess: "That's happening on Friday."

Ronnie: "I know, but I've got some important parts to talk about."

Pushing that back to the end.

Drew: "OK, so is there any other -- other things we can think of?"

Tess: "I don't know how -- what this would look like -- but for the volunteers who have been... who aren't in this room necessarily, who haven't been coordinating but have been very present in this space and have become sort of attached... I just wonder how we can sort of retain them within the network if they're interested in doing that, and... yeah."

Ronnie: "Isn't Wedes having a party on Wednesday?" Yes.

Drew: "We've got web cleanup and announcements... extra volunteer help for the exit on either the 29th or 30th, trucks for those days as well, stopping donations, clean-up and rehab of the space, and also replacing supplies moved and cost overruns of the space. Documentation and institutional memory of the space -- retaining that -- and managing the Occupy inventory. Thank you cards for the space and its stewards, and some sort of thank you and retention of dedicated volunteers that are attached to this space. My suggestion is that we kind of narrow this down into buckets now, and then have people agree to bottomline setting up and if we need to have discussions on those things... does that sound like a good way?"

Tammy: "What do you mean by bottomline?"

Drew: "People to take responsibility for these various tasks. Thank you. OK, so how can we... can anyone help me... can we maybe write this up on the wall somewhere?" Nawp. "That's all right; I'll try and synthesize..."

Tim suggests that thanking volunteers and the space can be one bucket. Drew: "OK, the thank you crew."

Dalit: "I do think they're kind of different; thanking volunteers and plugging them in somewhere else is a much bigger endeavor."

OK, so we're putting these up on a board and divvying up the bottomlining. Casper suggests we have two or three for each, instead of "making one human being bottomline."

Shlomo: "Most of these will take most of us, and others just a few of us. I feel like the party, a few people can bottomline -- does anyone want to bottomline the party?" Ronnie: "And Ronnie, you can task some people to help you at some point." Casper's on the booze-buying, Tim will bottom-line confetti.

RE: web presence? Carrie: "The biggest thing, I think, will be somebody getting in touch with our Interocc people... they have a whole Jacobi page and Jacobi's everywhere, so they need to start now thinking about cleaning that up. And then I can bottomline getting the Twitter team to do Twitter blasts about all of this; we should think about how many Cel.ly blasts we want to do... how naggy we want to be."

Shlomo suggests we frame it as streamlining, rather than closing down. Sure.

Tammy: "It also has to go out to the 14,000 person volunteer list. If you write up all the info, I can get it to the right people."

Beers have arrived!

Shlomo: "In all this outward-facing stuff... just somehow creating the aura of not a step back. Total autonomy to do whatever, but we're restructuring for the long haul, whatever." Carrie: "Oh, certainly."

Tammy: "Can I ask a question? Is the party Friday for everyone or... like, do we want a public announcement?"

Tess suggests we ask Juan Carlos.

Brett: "My understanding is that folks from this community want to thank us for the work we've been doing."

Robin: "I've only been working on the floor downstairs, and even though you've been doing an awesome job with social media, there's been a problem communicating with the people downstairs. First of all, I didn't know about this party -- did you Marcus?" No one did tho. "Also, people who came in the last couple days had no idea we had to be out by the 30th. So mostly I'm concerned about them showing up and not knowing we're not going to be here." Lots of folks don't use social media. "So whatever we do should also be done by actually putting physical signs downstairs -- that should be included."

Drew: "I think that falls very much into the dedicated volunteer retention. That could be... that could be a role -- taking down contact information."

Robin: "Well, and I've gotten info from a lot of people who were like, what, you're not going to be here?"

Nick: "And I think all the roles that exist that will still be going on tomorrow and the next day, each one of those people can spread the word too. By the way, we're going to be closing... to get the word out."

Drew: "So, disseminating this info internally is going to be really important." Tess suggests it get plugged

into orientation.

Marcus: "And we already started to tell people the last two days."

Tim points out this makes getting contact info so important.

Tammy: "Everyone who comes in here and registers -- and they should -- are on our email blast-list. We do have everyone's info collected, and we do communicate with people."

Lauren: "I know we have volunteer registration sheets downstairs -- do we actually keep that separate?"

Drew: "There is an indicator on all the volunteer registrations on where you've worked, but that... can anyone confirm that that is being used -- when someone volunteers here are you checking those off and putting them into the system?"

Howie says says.

Tess: "But, some people register online, and I don't know what the process is if you register online... like if you go to the Interocc website and register... I don't know how far in advance people do that, and I don't know what that form looks like."

OK, back to bottomliners...

Nick: "This may be something to talk about in a little while, but maybe we can make a few hundred printouts of all the info about sites -- Rockaways, Long Island... can give to each driver, or something like that."

Tess: "Seems like a good thing to do once we've figured out what we actually are doing."

Drew: "OK, so let's continue through the list of things that are..."

Pablo asks who is doing the web presence. Drew is going to talk to Interocc; Tammy will do the volunteer newsletter. Oh, but Drew's POI -- /sandycoord has a lot of forms and info -- to get things onto registry, to get newsletter -- there's lots of information for coordinators there, which is very important.

Shlomo: "When you do the web clean, you need to change the city sites as well." On T-day we changed our sites, and the city didn't, and people went to the closed 520.

Drew will take care of that. "I'll sanitize the entire web." "I'll just call Anonymous."

And Carrie's doing the Twitter and Facebook. Last thing is to find someone to hit up mailing list with a recap and a summary -- we decided this, this and this; we're closing down on this day. Tess will do this.

Drew: "Excellent. One down."

Next on the list is a call for volunteers and vehicles. Tess: "There are basically 3 calls, right? We're not taking donations anymore; we need volunteers and vehicles to clean out, and we're done."

Carrie: "Unless someone has other ideas to get vehicles other than putting out a call -- like talking to

Clinton."

Shlomo: "We shouldn't put it out until we talk to Clinton."

Howie: "We can do that here at comms, we can call Clinton tomorrow."

Tara: "Should we decide right now when we're going to stop taking donations?"

Someone suggests tomorrow.

Nick: "I know Friday's coming quickly, but because of the snowstorm tomorrow, we shouldn't stop tomorrow -- in fact there's going to be a high amount of need tomorrow."

Eric: "I think because of the coming storm, we can't really stop taking donations and sending them out of here yet, based on the floor of stuff in and out of this place, especially after foul weather, the day after is often a busier day. So my suggestion is we should take donations through closing Wednesday, none Thursday, moving out Friday."

Greg: "As far as redirecting donations rather than taking them in, and given Nick's point that there's a storm that is likely to delay getting out to affected areas an extra day... if the roads to there are passable -- don't know how bad the storm is going to be -- if anything can be re-routed straight to affected areas..."

Dalit: "Nick, how long is the storm supposed to last?"

Nick: "It'll start raining and snowing tomorrow 10 or 11am, probably go until about 2 in the morning."

Tammy: "One, we already redirect donations; that's what we do here, so I don't think that strategy necessarily helps us. Two... I forgot -- did we say Thursday we'll stop?"

No decision yet. Drew: "THat's what's on the table, that the call to stop donation sgoes out Wednesday evening." Robin suggests we should let them know earlier than that.

Tess: "Thursday seems like it would probably be a good day to not be getting a ton more stuff. So if we can determine that now, and be making that call every morning and evening the next couple of days, that might be fair warning. That's my proposal."

Brett: "We should start saying tomorrow, closing Wednesday, not taking donations. After that, if things come we can just send it right on to sites." "And in our announcements and things we should probably include Jacobi phone numbers, so anyone who was planning on doing a dropoff can contact us and we can let them know where to go directly."

Eric: "I just want to enter into this that we do need to be prepared, I feel, to continue receiving donations Thursday -- some people won't check; we'll keep getting things in the mail -- probably for the near future too." Need to send someone to come pick up stuff.

Tammy suggests we put a drop-off box outside for a week or two after.

Shlomo asks if we have direct contact to the shipping people to forward stuff somewhere else.

Dalit: "We can also make a sign for outside so that if people come here they can be re-routed."

Drew: "So, what I'm hearing is that the proposal on the table is that we start announcing ASAP that our last day of accepting donations is Wednesday -- stop taking donations as of closing Wednesday night. And then re-route all donations to 520 --"

Casper: "Or the affected sites."

Drew: "Do we want to do that? I thought that was something we didn't want to do."

K: "Sending people directly to sites -- and I'll talk to Greg about this -- that's probably best, I would think? There are certain sites, like B38 -- hubs -- where that would make sense."

Marcos: "Be worried about very little, because there's actually very little coming in."

Tess: "I think this is something that will be answered better if we have some idea of what the next step looks like."

Drew: "So, we can revisit the redirect, but general timeline, Wednesday is the last day accepting donations, and beyond that they're being redirected to 520 or otherwise."

Tim: "I think we should wait until Tuesday -- if people are worried about coming here and not dropping stuff off, we should have them start worrying about that after the storm."

OK so we'll put off announcing it until Tuesday afternoon.

Carrie suggests we do earlier because if people are coming here from out of state, they can know ahead of time that they might be redirected somewhere.

Tim suggests the timing is up to Carrie's discretion because she's bottomlining that.

Tammy will get it into the newsletter.

Eric: "I just wanted to clarify that -- if we're going to send out an announcement as early as tomorrow morning, that's fine; I just want to make sure we're clear that we're still accepting stuff. I just want to make sure it's super clear that there's almost another 48 hours where people can keep bringing stuff."

Carrie notes that it's not totally news that we're closing Friday.

Shlomo: "Can we trust each other -- whoever bottom-lines -- to be open to suggestions, and try to get to the other part?"

Drew: "Yes, we should speed this up; I apologize. So, clean-up and rehab of the space -- who wants to..."

Marcus says they need 6 people and one day to move out.

Pablo: "I think all the people in this room should actually be doing this clean-up effort, and we should tell all

the people who have actually passed through this space to come volunteer."

Drew: "Yes, it's everyone, but there are people who are going to take responsibility for making sure that it happens."

Marcus: "I can only say about downstairs; it's a walk in the park, because it's already packed."

Tess: "There are two different parts of cleanup -- there's the real making sure things are actually clean, and the straightening up of the things that are left around every place. I think if we are just making announcements to people using the various spaces to be neat... that would help a lot. I can help with the sign stuff."

Tammy suggests we split it up based on areas. "You guys know best where all the stuff needs to go and where it is, so if we have someone who can do the office downstairs, someone in this area, and then the downstairs, downstairs..."

Nick +1s that idea; "Tomorrow I can help cleanup downstairs and also take an inventory about office supplies we've used."

Dacey was going to say the same thing and offer to bottomline the office cleanup. Will do with Nick.

Drew: "As part of cleanup, would it make sense to just..." Yeah Nick and Dacey will take inventory downstairs re: things we should replace for Jacobi.

Pablo: "I had offered to bottomline, maybe Ronnie can help, with the cost overrun part of it. Because I live in the community, have a good relationship with Juan Carlos, and we've been having this conversation for awhile now, and he's identified several things. One is that the floors started peeling when boxes taped on the ground started to be pulled up. So there's some serious issues in regards to the floor, and I think we're directly responsible for that, and morally responsible, so I could bottomline an inventory of those kinds of things and figure out funding solutions for it."

Casper and Dacey point out that Justin has a giant fund for this.

Ronnie will non-violently track down Wedes and "maybe break his legs?" Yeah.

OK, thank you cards. Tess: "Can we just make one giant thank you card and all sign it?" Yup! Tess will bottomline.

Nick says we should have two cards, one for St. Jacobi and then one for volunteers. "Maybe someone can draft up a thank you for the Interocc site, and then some tweets..."

Ronnie: "I think there's two aspects to thanking Jacobi -- one for them letting us use the space, and then one for Juan Carlos..."

Shlomo: "Can we trust that the people bottomlining this will be open to suggestions?" Hahah. Copy/paste.

Someone points out all of the folks who have been cooking for us need to be thanked specifically too. "And I think a card isn't enough, to be honest." Pablo and Shlomo will bottomline. Drew will work on the Interocc

page.

Eric: "I just wanted to add in -- I forgot my POI earlier; something that seems relevant, but a thank you to the neighborhood, who have become every day coordinators. And Juan Carlos has suggested we stay in part in this space because some of them have come to him to ask how they can keep working with us if we move."

OK, now, "How do we retain these people who have been working with us?"

Dalit: "I don't know if that's the sort of thing that a couple of people can bottomline; I think it's a broader discussion we should have fully." Tammy agrees, says we need to talk about where we're going first. Nick agrees.

OK, Drew is going to "bike rack" that one as well. Whatever that means

Party also bikeracked.

Moving onto the hard part: where are we going from here?

Tammy: "So, something I'm hearing from everyone everywhere except here in Clinton is that there aren't enough coordinators on the ground. So I think it would be good -- and I was really shocked to hear how many people in this room see themselves as floaters?"

Robin: "What's a coordinator?"

Shlomo: "Robin, you're a coordinator."

Tammy: "In my perspective, it's someone who's not coming for one day; it's someone who is around and can help people who are here for one day."

Drew: "It's someone with institutional memory."

Tammy: "And the volunteer numbers are down, but there's a dire need everywhere except here for people who come back every day. So I don't think we need two distribution sites, I think we need one that has food, stuff, people and coms all in one place -- question is where that is -- and if between Jacobi and Clinton there's a plethora of people, we all need to start pinning ourselves down in places that really need the support and help."

Ronnie: "I did site coordination here for a long while, and it's been on my mind whether we need to still do this anymore. We're not a disaster relief organization... the point is, there's a great need at these sites for coordinators to go out there and do work. And these places will have their own Amazon registries, and they'll have their own abilities to make requests for donations, which should go to sites, rather than have a centralized hub to send them from. We have the kitchen in Bay Ridge, with its own food dispatch, and apparently space for volunteer orientation. It's closest to all the sites; the perfect place to work out of. I think it's a waste of our resources to have a warehouse space to redirect when stuff should just be going to places where they have need."

Shlomo: "I think we can also start thinking about the role out in the field as organizers working with local

organizers, rather than coordinators, because we're not a relief organization, we're something that has a relief element to it, but we're getting to the stage where Occupy has to be doing... Occupy Sandy has to be doing stuff with the communities there in response to some of the political realities that are arising that are limiting the ability of state apparatus to step in where they should have been all the time. So, our role now is starting to be unleashing the power of the governments that are being held back by Bloomberg right now. That's our biggest task... and a lot of people are whispering that they want us to cause a ruckus. In the most elegant way."

Dalit: "To Ronnie's point which I agree with, from an efficiency perspective, routing this directly to sites... and to scale back. But there'll still be donations that need to be dropped off, so it probably makes sense to have some hub, be it Clinton or somewhere else, just smaller."

Pablo: "2828 Neptune is this space that is in dire need of stronger Occupy presence -- there are like 3 organizations operating out of that space -- 4 -- they have 100 pallets of supplies that they're not getting out; it's probably going to get snowed on even though we sent out tarps, which puts that operation in jeopardy. We have had great operations there but then... I would consider setting up a dispatch setup from that space in order to get that stuff out, because that's essential supplies, and it's just not getting out. And it's close to Far Rockaway and Staten Island. So I'd suggest creating a dispatch there and an Occupy-led effort to get that stuff out."

Robin suggests she can help get things more efficient out there.

Tess: "I think that's a really great idea. I agree with -- that we should just be generally downsizing these distribution and volunteer intake centers and moving them out to the sites; my concern is that... there are a couple. One is that resources won't be distributed necessarily equally; there might -- because, for example, Rockaways has a lot of organizers who are very plugged in who know who to call to make things work, they might get an excess of stuff. A smaller place like Sheepshead Bay, which is worked by others who are not Occupy in addition to Occupy, it might be less accessible. And then there's the question of comms -- at the point that there isn't anything centralized, what's really the need for comms? You'd need to create a new system of intersite comms. And then, how does that information all feed back out into the wider world such that it's legible and approachable and people can do the thing where they're like, I want to help; where do I go, who do I call? Besides Ghostbusters. How does the website get all the information up to date? So those are some of the concerns I'd like to talk about."

Tim: "I do agree we should be scaling back in Brooklyn, but we should still have a place where people can drop off supplies and to coordinate between remote areas... but I hear your concern that supplies and info are distributed equitably. RE: comms, I think it would be beneficial to have a space where people working comms can be there together, but I think we are moving towards a system where not everyone has to be as long as people are better about information sharing, and we can have a decentralized comms set up, although the timeline is different."

Casper: "I think we need to be cautious about moving to other sites so quickly -- one site can get more material. Because 2828 Neptune -- there's a ton of stuff; high-quality, brand-new; this Wednesday and Thursday they're getting a massive number of brand-new coats." Woah. "And they just got 2,000 items of brand-new sportswear -- it's warm. Track suits." "If we set up a giant tent there, South Brooklyn will be set."

Eric: "So... I want to second a lot of what I've heard the last half-dozen people say, but want to frame it differently. I agree there's no point in us having two supply hubs; maybe not any... I'm really wary, though, of

completely virtualizing our entire operation so that the only way we exist in any presence is on the Internet. Because I think it's pretty vital -- there's still an ongoing need for certain tasks and certain groups for people to get sitting around a table together. We should think of that as an opportunity, not a burden; it would let us have presence in neighborhood." Suggests being in Jacobi every other day, for example. "Same for supplies -- we don't need a coordinating/logistics presence at every site, but the half-dozen largest sites.. like Neptune. And that's an obvious case of people not knowing what to do with that -- they're getting the stuff, and they don't have a system in place. Rather than creating a system for them, maybe we should step in, as arrogant as it seems, and say, you can't handle this; step aside."

Shlomo: "But say it in a totally different way." LOL.

Eric: "Yes. Additionally, we need to teach stuff to other folks, and the way to do that isn't to spread ourselves thin... I don't think it's as easily explained as it is observed."

Nick: "I kind of agree with the last few people; I don't think we need one place to collect donations; I think that could be distributed. But I think there's a need for a centralized comms... housing -- so the supplies get distributed equally. The comms have built an amazing connection from here and each location; the way I see it is as this cloud of resources... that's why there needs to be a centralized place for comms; not necessarily to take in donations."

Howie: "I will fully agree with what Nick said; I think there needs to be a central place for comms to be... one concern would be, we're talking about shutting down volunteer intake, but some of the sites are hard to get to by public transit." Getting there on the train is a nightmare for the foreseeable future.

Shlomo: "I think that one of the decisions made in the past is that we weren't sending people directly out to the sites, for a lot of good reasons."

Tara: "OK, this connects to that quite well. I think in order to keep volunteers coming from Manhattan and the rest of wider NY, it needs to be as easy as possible to access us and our info. The easier way to do that is to maintain some kind of hub... even if it is just small, we can have comms there as well -- people who want to donate stuff are not going to want to take it to the Rockaways. And then also the volunteer intake as well. The whole reason I came to you guys is that you were the best at information."

Ronnie: "I have a slightly different perspective. I think we're underplaying the most valuable resource we have, and that is our organizers. Having been on the sites, there's less and less of a need for generalized volunteers out there, and there's more of a need for people with specialized talents. And I'm personally infuriated by the lack of communication at these sites... because a lot of the organizers on the ground are taking care of the nitty-grity. I think there needs to be a diaspora, at this critical moment, of having organizers out in the field. And I think because a lot of us haven't been out there... we need to realize the importance. Because we have a symbiotic relationship with the recovery sites... all we have been doing is to make sure they're as autonomous as possible and so they can do the kind of work necessary to get the work done on the ground. Because we're here to help folks on the ground, not necessarily to make a cool system."

Drew: "I think the strength that a centralized location has is that all the nodes know, I can call this place and they are going to have the most accurate information for me. And that operation -- four or five people can do. It can be very trimmed-down, especially when we're not managing distribution -- it can be 6, 7, 8..."

Carrie: "An Occupy 311."

Drew: "That's exactly it -- a small group of people in a centralized location. So that when coordinators go out into the field, there is also a location to come back to, so we can say, here's what happened. Here's the problem, here's the need, here's the offers I have. So that's my solution framework. Nimble information coordination."

Tammy: "One, we can't just drop into places already existing and tell them we need to do things a certain way; we can't just go to 2828 Neptune -- there's a lot of politics that exist in these places. There are a lot of sites we're operating at. We need a central node, not just because of what's already been said, but because a lot of these places are starting to feel less connected to the OS network, which has a lot of danger in it. There are support structures -- Medical, Legal, etc... and in NOLA, I heard the two wards had exactly the same problems but didn't know. They didn't have a birds-eye view; we can't lose that. And we can come up with a plan, but we have to talk to 520. We might think we don't need a place for stuff, but if you walk in there, I think people will think about it differently."

Tammy has some proposals: One, that we use the kitchen in Bay Ridge for comms and volunteer intake. "We need more organizers, but we still need people." Another proposal is to use kitchen in Bay Ridge and keep volunteer intake and coms at 520. "And we need to find a plan to figure out how we continue to engage this community, which is our home, and not just leave and never come back."

Dacey said stuff.

Brett: "To Dacey's point, we need to know what we want, so we know what to ask for. Juan Carlos said he was getting all sorts of offers, different types of spaces, but he didn't know what we wanted. So we might be able to find something that might meet all that, and I love the idea. This has been an amazing community, and I think we need to honor that and not lose it... I think Tammy's point is really important, that we need to be very important about not going out to sites in a way that's colonizing -- we have a lot of experience and a lot of knowledge. Anytime we are doing this work, it should be about, what are your needs, and what can we bring to help you meet them? I don't have that fear about anyone in this room but it's something to be very conscious of. And we have an opportunity, by having done this work for a month, to go out to the sites and understand what our potential is, so when we see the needs of the sites we can help meet them from a very informed place. When me and Dalit and K were in the Rockaways a couple days ago, we had questions -- do you know how to access lawyers, medical, do you know about mold? People running sites didn't know they could ask us for this stuff. So we can bring info, not like, you need this, but this is what we can offer you. And I think taking the opportunity to see what's going on -- listen first, and then talk. I love -- just in general, I love that we're having this conversation; these are bigger issues that we in this room can't decide on, but it's good to start talking about. Also, I've heard "evenly" and "equally" brought up -- I don't believe in equality; I believe in equity. Every site does n't need everything; different sites have different needs. For example, Coney now has an excess of everything... we need to start doing intersite communications... more solid comms at each site. I don't necessarily think we need centralized organization, but we need a central communication that can be accessed horizontally. I think we have it, but we just need to get the people there."

Pablo: "Just to respond re: colonization. I agree, and I agree that there's a lot of politics, but... talking to the pastor, talking to ABe who's been on the ground at 2828 Neptune -- the Pastor's overwhelmed. And she's kind of like, where have you guys gone? And I think this philosophical fear, are we colonizing or not -- you have to respond agilely to needs, and we shouldn't fear stepping out in these cases. Especially when we've

kind of lost the ball -- got this site going, and then all of a sudden we're AWOL and the Pastor is overwhelmed. So I agree generally speaking, and it should inform our activity -- but in this specific case, I think we have a moral responsibility and kind of a responsibility in this site with getting it back into functioning order. So I just fear what's going to happen after the blizzard. And then point two, Tammy's suggestion that the church be the site for comms, volunteer intake, etc -- I completely agree... I think there's several good reasons why it should be the volunteer intake. First, kitchen has not been getting enough volunteers this week, and one of the problems is we don't have a volunteer flow going to the kitchen. If we make it a volunteer center, we can have that flow, and it is a good staging area for people coming back like dicey is talking about, info. The only fear is it's a more bougie part of Brooklyn, and the neighbors -- they might... just thinking about a weekend here at Jacobi, of this kind of, you know, middle-class mainly white area, I'm sure it might ruffle a few feathers."

Shlomo: "That's a reason for it."

Pablo: "I know, I'm just saying..."

Shlomo, clowning: "I just hate white people so much!" Gritted teeth.

Pablo: "Anyway, it's an amazing space, all these resources."

Tim: "RE: the philosophical take on the whole colonization thing -- the difference re: 2828, the Pastor is asking for our help. So that resolves that conflict. Dicey's point: wanting everything in one place; the BR place is really killer and I don't want to give that up unless we have a really killer space. The Pastor's put a lot into the space, bought us fridges, and is really in it for the long haul. And I think he can be an ambassador to the community in general that what's happening there is the church serving its mission. I have a contact from someone who might be able to give us some traffic, so that might be able to address that concern, but I don't want to tie up that street with some of the traffic we've had on 4th ave here because the street is not that wide."

Tess: "If we are going to have something centralized, then a lot of my concerns go away. I get a little... if we don't have anything in central Brooklyn to serve as an intake center, to do communications, whatever, it sets the bar to entry a lot higher than its been. I feel like we're going to lose a lot of people who have just come in and become attached to this work, because it's easier to access. Also... I agree with Brett -- I agree -- I think I used the word equitably re: resources... I question whether people can -- whether we can equitably distribute resources if you can't really see what's going on next to you, and I don't want to create competition for resources. And so I think that we should have Spokescouncils that move between the regions, and that would be my addendum to any proposal that we come out of here with, because obviously we can't make any decisions on this on our own." "It would be a Spokescouncil between the regions."

Tammy: "What's a spokescouncil?"

Tess: "Different groups of people have to make a decision about the thing they all have a stake in right? So you sit in a circle with your group, and in a non-hierarchical, directly democratic way you work out a decision. That's it!"

Tammy, on next steps: "From listening to this conversation, I think we should -- I'm weary of redirecting to 520 when it's so questionable, and when it's going to be challenging for us to integrate there. So I suggest we redirect this room of resources to Bay Ridge Saturday and 2828 Neptune -- split ourselves between

those two places. And talk to Juan Carlos to see if we can get a place for stuff near the kitchen. If we can get set up by the time 520 closes, then they'll have to come to us."

So questions: who talks to 2828 Neptune, and who talks to JC about trying to find a place for stuff?

Tammy: "And there's a big meeting tomorrow. What we did last week is kind of the start of a Spokescouncil; there's one tomorrow."

Drew: "And as far as I understand no one is really in charge of what is happening with that?"

Tammy: "The closest thing is me..."

Drew: "Oh, great, so you can make it a Spokescouncil."

OK so the proposals are to move everything but storage to Bay Ridge or alternatively to Clinton. Drew suggests we talk about the ideal, and then what we'll do Friday?

Dacey suggests we start with the ideal.

Drew: "OK. Is the ideal Jacobi somewhere else? Even reflecting on all the things we discussed about not wanting to have centralized places, etc etc?"

Shlomo: "I think we all decided we liked the idea of a centralized place." But one, not two."

Drew: "So the idea is having a centralized place that is kitchen, coms, distribution and orientation, and 520 Clinton also comes into that. Is that the ideal? Do we want to go further into that? That seems like a pretty good idea to bring tomorrow, and say we want to find a location and fold 520 and Jacobi into it."

Shlomo: "Point of information, that will send tomorrow's meeting into madness."

Tammy: "Well, we'll have time to report back about Jacobi.. I mean, in my vision of what tomorrow might look like, we'll have time to report back about Jacobi, and in that reportback..."

Shlomo: "But that's what I'm saying -- that particular vision -- we should tell them what they're going to do Friday, and what that vision might be, but I think we shouldn't bring that... that's just going to cause trouble."

Drew: "Personally, I find the whole beef... unbelievably immature." Lots of uptwinkles. "I agree," Brett says.

"It is," a few people say.

Shlomo: "It's silly, but it's there, and if we say that out loud, they're going to be pissed off at us."

Ronnie: "Wait. Can -- is it actually real? Because, like -- "

Brett: "Yes. Yes."

Ronnie: " -- I was pretending like it's real..." Laughter. "This whole thing has been about pretending that it was real."

Tess: "Yes, it's like Bike Coalition and Library."

Ronnie: "No, I started it because I was pretending that it was real so it became a real thing." Laughter.

Brett: "It's all your fault."

Tim: "No, but it *is* real. It's not, like, awful, but it's there."

Tammy: "But everyone -- at the same time, everyone understands that both -- I think everyone understands that Jacobi and Clinton are both on their way to closing and that we need to combine. I don't think that's a controversial statement."

Ronnie: "Yeah, it's maybe just underlying grudges, but other than that, it's nothing."

Tammy, laughing: "You're the one that promotes it more than anyone!"

Drew brings us back. "We're on the homestretch, people."

Shlomo: "Another point of information: I'm not sure everyone there is as aware as you may be about that, but part of their operation is certainly, 100%, shutting down. What half of that it is is not certain yet, and if it's going to be the entire thing is also uncertain. So it's not really that clear if it is really shutting down."

Eric: "I want to speak really quickly to there being a real division, and agreeing that very immature but it's real and needs to be dealt with depending on where we go from here -- in my experience, going back and forth a bit, and going there and introducing myself as a coordinator from here, and from some phone calls and talking to folks from Clinton who have floated down to other sites... I've found that over and over again, what I get in terms of an understanding or attitude about us from people working there, is an assumption that because we are smaller and don't act as the hub for all tech stuff, that somehow we're less organized and advanced -- I've had people being like, "Oh, you have computers down there now?" like in the last few days. And then, like, started yelling into the phone, "We're not in the stone age down there!" We've been running on computers for three weeks."

Shlomo: "Except for iPads, because they kept them all."

Eric: "But leaving aside any petty disagreements about resource allocation... I have seen impressions from folks who have worked exclusively there that they think we're not... I'm wary about organizing with them where they assume the systems they have there are automatically more organized, more capable than what we have here. Which I don't think is true; I think it's half-and-half."

Drew: "I agree, and whatever is brought forward needs to definitely be kept in mind. So, the idea of bringing forward that consolidation -- that this group felt that consolidation was the ideal situation, should be presented tomorrow, tactfully. Is that accurate?"

Shlomo: "I don't think... I think he just expressed a problem with a certain form of consolidation, and the ideal is to move this operation so it stays intact..."

Tammy: "I don't think that's true."

Ronnie: "We're all reasonable people here; same with 520. Once we share a space with each other, it will resolve itself. It's not going to be a big deal."

Tammy: "I think the fear is us folding into there... I think consolidating into a new spot would address most of the concerns."

Tess isn't familiar with the BR space, "but what we're talking about is downsizing this sort of operation -- distro hub and volunteer intake operation. So we should just be clear that when we're talking about consolidating, it's to make it more compact, not bigger."

Howie: "And I totally agree; we need to consolidate because this operation is getting much smaller and there's no way it makes sense to have two comms place."

Dacey suggests we just move forward with Tammy's proposal.

Drew suggests we move into a formal consensus process.

Tammy: "OK, so on Friday, we move this operation to the Kitchen, assuming that's OK?"

Tim: "Here's how it works -- there's only so much space up there; the kitchen needs to be able to do its own thing with minimum disruption. We can take like 6 regular people organizing that aren't... 4 regular people organizing that aren't doing kitchen-related stuff. In terms of office space, it's very small; we can take on one or two people specifically focused on volunteer orientation... this many people cannot show up here at once."

Shlomo says Juan Carlos made it sound like there was a big upstairs, but Tim hasn't seen it.

Tammy: "But can we do volunteer intake in the sanctuary? And car dispatch?"

Tim: "I think we may need to look into a place where cars can carpool from. I think we'll need a place able to handle that organization... that said, we could have a weekend where it's ugly and then we find a way to make it better. It's going to suck, but we can do it."

Nick: "I was ready to agree with this, but we need more details about this place."

Drew: "Let's move forward with agreement pending that the agreement fits with reality. Because this -- what we decide here should be brought to the group tomorrow for further digesting, in the large group. And then that would give you a day to really know the details of it."

Ronnie: "If we're consolidating to make this more compact, we shouldn't have expectation we're all going to be in that place anyway."

Eric: "I disagree with that, because part of what we're talking about is having Bay Ridge be a place where organizers can be dropping in... without the space to fit this many people in the room, we can't have an end of the day organizer's meeting..."

Tim: "The sanctuary can work for that."

Drew: "So, are we ready? OK, let's do it."

Tammy: "OK, so we move comms, volunteer intake and kitchen to the Bay Ridge area and look for an area nearby where we can store stuff in on Friday, and then our ideal that we present tomorrow is a new location that can house kitchen, stuff, volunteer intake and coms -- a smaller operation -- and a good chunk of people who've been organizing in hubs find organizing roles in communities. I added that, at the end."

Drew: "Spectacular. Anything that needs to be clarified? Does anyone have any concerns with that, insofar as a friendly amendment?"

Carrie: "I have a concern, which unfortunately can't be remedied by a friendly amendment, but I just want to put it out there. It is really far for people coming from Manhattan or NB or Queens; it takes me an hour and a half just to get here every day; this is even farther... it's not the central Brooklyn location we had talked about."

Drew suggests maybe the friendly amendment could be that it's a good time to visit 520 Clinton and work on building bridges.

Tess: "My concern is that if this new space can really only hold 6 or 10 volunteers aside from Kitchen... we've been doing a really awesome job having a rotation and a flow and people have been taking on new roles... I feel like that will seriously inhibit that. Maybe that's just a bullet we have to bite, but that would be unfortunate, and again speaks to my larger concern about losing... losing people. Losing new people... I don't have a solution."

Drew: "Does anyone want to venture a solution to that?"

Eric: "I want to posit the idea that we can perhaps overcome the office space restriction in the immediate area of the Bay Ridge kitchen. If there's a problem with working within the building, maybe there are spaces that are not being offered to us because they don't know we'll work in any musty-ass basement. And maybe there are things nearby where we can locate either some sort of large insulated tent or office trailer -- we've already gotten office trailers donated. So we can do that again."

Tammy: "If Juan Carlos has been looking for spaces but didn't know what we want, maybe he already has one but he didn't know."

Pablo notes the United Methodist is offering storage space... but it doesn't sound like they have office space. "And so if you wanted to create a centralized hub that met both needs..." 7th and 46th. Shlomo: "And we can keep the coms here on the stage?" Pablo: "Yes, but we need to scout the space ASAP, to see what the limitations are. It seems like there are limitations."

Tammy: "So let's ask Juan Carlos what spaces are available and use the BR kitchen as a backup?"

Drew: "I want to reverse that as a friendly amendment to this proposal -- that a group of people who, if you want to do what I'm saying, will raise their hands and be the Task Force on this." "And the BR option we're agreeing on right now is tentative -- we have to have a plan for Friday. So, we need that plan for Friday, and then there's a task force to really hit the ground running looking for an alternative. That this group is going to empower to make decisions. Does that sound reasonable? That there's an empowered group to look at

spaces and evaluate spaces?" Looks good. "OK, And then we'll decide that afterwards. OK? Does that clear up the concern?"

Howie: "RE: options to solve problem in Bay Ridge -- at the start of this, weren't we running some kind of pickups to sites when the trains weren't coming?"

Dacey: notes that that was a pain in the ass. "It's so inefficient -- it was crazy; we were sending six cars to pick people up... unless we have a bus service and we know how many people we're picking up."

Lauren notes that it was mentioned dividing stuff between BR and 2828 Neptune, but got dropped.

Drew: "Tammy did add that -- but the point is, we're moving operations, and people are deciding to go elsewhere, but know that the BR."

Lauren wants to know what it means for car dispatch. "It sounds like it's not viable to happen in Bay Ridge; I just think it should be clear, where that will exist, or if it will exist at all." 520 Clinton? "If people are interacting with drivers the next couple of days, it would be good to have something to tell them, as opposed to, you'll go somewhere."

Drew: "Well, I guess we'll know more tomorrow. I think this will be a little more -- there'll be more information tomorrow. For this. So, can anyone restate the proposal? I can do what I can, just fill in the blanks for me. We're moving operations to the Bay Ridge kitchen, and we're going to -- we're going to move, and... also people will go -- will start moving out to the front lines to do coordination. We're going to identify a group tonight to look for an even more ideal location with the Pastor here, and.. and what else?"

Tess: "What is -- how are we defining ideal?" Integrated. Tammy: "I thought we agreed to that."

Shlomo: "Eternal crisis leading to a sense of continued purpose and action, every day."

Tara points out that the ideal could also include location -- like, for example, Central Brooklyn.

Dacey: "So, we did specifically talk about this already.. it came off to me that we want to essentially duplicate Jacobi, keeping in mind that we'd then suggest to Clinton that they move there as well. So I'm not sure it would be smaller than Jacobi once we were all there together."

People seem to agree.

Dalit: "I have a concern. I know we're approaching a consensus, and I don't want to fuck that up."

Drew: "Do it. Go for it."

Dalit: "It's sounding more like the relocation is an interim measure, rather than where we're going to go, so the plan that's going to create two sites for another few weeks before we try to move somewhere else while Clinton is still operating and functional -- to put all this energy into an interim site..."

Tammy: "I think the end of Clinton is a lot sooner than a couple of weeks."

Dalit: "Even so... " "Not sure it's fair to ask them to fold into us either, and if it's a space smaller than

Jacobi... even if this group is going to act to find the smaller space and start it up, that's fine, but it probably makes sense to just do that and not put all this energy into the in between."

Drew: "So in the interim, just go to Clinton?"

Dalit: "Or in the interim use that energy to find another space, or -- not necessarily go to Clinton, but redirect to Clinton, and use the energy to find this other space."

Shlomo: "So maybe the end of this meeting should be a conversation about how this conversation can be brought to tomorrow's meeting?"

Tammy: "I just don't know if Clinton is going to be there at the end of the week. That's all I'm trying to say."

Drew: "So we can clarify this tomorrow?"

Tammy: "Possibly. I'm not sure if they know."

Drew: "OK... I think that's impossible. To be quite honest. So to try to bring this home, it sounds like if we move to... that perhaps the idea is that people go -- I mean, that it just disperses -- people disperse to 520, people disperse to the kitchen, and people disperse to the front line." 15 minutes max he says. "It's too much," someone says.

Dacey: "So, can I -- so... I'm confused, because I feel like we were talking about the Bay Ridge as a backup plan -- like, that was a backup plan, and we were talking about having a team tomorrow try and begin scrambling to find something that's better that is closer to what we really want. So, I still really like that idea... our backup plan doesn't have to be Bay Ridge; it could just be to split up. I personally think that's scary, because I don't think that -- I'm pretty sure that's the end of this, if we do that. So I hope we don't do that; I hope we at least try to maintain a flag somewhere so we can maintain this culture that we have, that I think is way better than Clinton..." Woo, someone says. "And not so we can fight about it later, but so that it isn't lost, and that later it can be added back in. Because otherwise I think it's going to be Clinton, like, being the thing." Suggests that we revisit the proposal: "A backup plan for Friday; I think it should be to move to Bay Ridge, even if just a nominal presence, and probably also dispersal a little bit. And then to hope that this team can find a place so we can just leave this place and go there and not have to do the Bay Ridge thing. Is that... is that clear to everyone?"

Drew: "Yes. Do we want to just go through... forget what we've done, and go to another proposal?"

Dacey: "Isn't this the proposal we were talking about?"

Eric: "Yes, this is Tammy's proposal."

Tim: "If we're putting together a team to look at new spaces, they should have a plan B as well, and that should be a place to put stuff. Because if Clinton has a deadline on it sooner than anyone thinks, that should be a place for it to go."

Eric: "I don't think we're capable of deciding if BR is a transitional space or not yet -- there's the meeting tomorrow, the question of Clinton closing, and then whether the kitchen in BR has stuff nearby. It sounds

like there's a decent chance that we can make it work to be everything we want right there."

Nick: "I'd like to talk to the group that is designated to do this or be a part of it; I've been sharing emails during this meeting and I may have access to a facility that may be used -- it's not a land-based facility; it's a large boat --"

ROOM EXPLODES IN HIGH FIVES AND FUCK YEAHS FOR NICK.

Nick: "We'd just need to reach out to areas that could hold the boat..."

Tammy: "One in Staten, one in Coney..."

Nick: "Size-wise -- if it does happen, it holds upwards of 500 people."

HOLY SHIT.

Drew: "Specfuckingtacular."

Shlomo: "Oh Captain, my Captain!"

Pablo: "I have a -- "

Greg: "A Zeppelin?"

HAHAH.

Pablo: "I have a suggestion in the meantime that brings together this interim plan. Maybe kitchen can be, for the meantime, volunteer orientation and intake -- because it seems probable that we have this space for storage on 46th street, we can use that for storage, and then cars can go down 4th and pick up volunteers and food and keep going." Interim plan.

Ronnie: "Since this has descended into chaos, can we empower folks in this room to have a conversation with Clinton and figure this out?"

Tammy: "So, here's my concern about Clinton -- not competition. They don't know what they're doing; they're more wrapped up and it's more complicated than we are and they have a bigger team. We could do them a service by finding a space for when they're ready. If we don't set something else up, and then things go down there like they're going down right now, then all of them are screwed. So if we don't have to put the energy into maintaining Clinton and all the craziness, and we can put our heads together so we can figure out a solution, then they're going to be -- so I don't have to be on that team, but my strong opinion is that we do not rely on them as our backup and then possibly fuck us all over."

Tim: "I like what Pablo said about an interim plan; taht's great. Barring anything more fantastic, I also need someone on site with me at kitchen tomorrow so we have enough people to worry about dispatch, etc, while having brainpower to talk to the Pastor and figure out the space, etc."

Drew: "So, we are -- we are moving operations temporarily to the kitchen location; dispersing into the front-lines, and -- people can go wherever the hell they want to go. But this group is saying that temporarily

we're going to move into the kitchen space, and then possibly the 46th street for stuff, if we can't find another space. But the decision for the real next step, the non-interim next step, is going to fall to a group that we're going to empower as long as agree to the words I just said."

Dalit's CQ:" So, since it seems like the push for a new space is more dire and has a higher priority, would it be helpful to have more people working on that?"

Tammy: "Sam, and no one."

That's the group we're going to empower next, but yeah good question. Megan also has some info.

Drew asks for volunteers. "All right; you're going to be empowered to save everyone's asses, to save the day and make sure Occupy doesn't crumble into the dust." HAahahah wow.

Eric, Casper, Dicey, Shlomo, Lauren. Brett: "How many of you will be here at 9am tomorrow morning to talk to Juan Carlos?"

Working it out.

Drew volunteers to take email list and turn it into occupysandy-jacobi@lists.occupy.net.

Nick: "If the boat thing happens, it would be Red Hook, Sheepshead, Mill Basin, Howard Beach."

Drew will also make an Occupy Sandy spaces list.

Casper: "So the peolpe who did stand up to find the spaces -- maybe we should talk about how they start working on it?"

OK, rad.

Drew: "The last piece we need: what bar are we going to?"