

Monday, January 12, 2009.

Met at five minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., in an Informal Session, with Mr. Donato of Medford in the Chair (having been appointed by the Speaker, under authority conferred by Rule 5, to perform the duties of the Chair).

Prayer was offered by the Reverend Robert F. Quinn, C.S.P., Chaplain of the House, as follows:

Gracious God, the Ultimate Source of Our Hope and Truth, we depend upon You and Your guidance as we take up and evaluate the items on our personal and legislative agenda on this and every day. Inspire us to select the right, just and ethical decisions and choices which are based on sound human and spiritual values and principles. Teach us to work in a collaborative manner in resolving the many current complex societal and economic challenges in our Commonwealth. Let our hearts and minds be filled with enthusiasm and joy as we reach out to all the members of our diverse communities in our common efforts to strengthen our neighborhoods. May we continue our long national tradition of respecting the dignity and importance of each person in our country.

Grant Your blessings to the Speaker, the members and employees of this House and their families. Amen.

At the request of the Chair (Mr. Donato), the members, guests and employees joined with him in reciting the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

Re-Election of Minority Leader.

A communication was received from Representative Bradley H. Jones, Jr., of North Reading, that at the Republican Caucus held on Wednesday, January 7, 2009 in hearing room A-2, with all sixteen (16) members present, he had been re-elected as Minority Leader.

Appointments to Temporary Special Committees.

Temporary committees, established pursuant to orders adopted by the House on Thursday, January 8, were appointed as follows:

Rules: Representative Scaccia of Boston, Fox of Boston, Rogers of Norwood, Harkins of Needham, Tobin of Quincy, Mariano of Quincy, Koutoujian of Waltham, Golden of Lowell, deMacedo of Plymouth, Frost of Auburn and Hill of Ipswich.

Ethics: Fagan of Taunton, Walz of Boston, O'Flaherty of Chelsea, Costello of Newburyport, Golden of Lowell, Harkins of Needham, St. Fleur of Boston, Murphy of Lowell, Barrows of Mansfield, Poirier of North Attleborough and Ross of Wrentham.

Transportation: Wagner of Chicopee, Fennell of Lynn, Walsh of Lynn, Ehrlich of Marblehead, Pignatelli of Lenox, Basile of Boston, Linsky of Natick, Fernandes of Milford, Stanley of West Newbury, Peisch of Wellesley, Rodrigues of Westport, Peterson of Grafton, Frost of Auburn and Humason of Westfield.

Pension Reform: Kaufman of Lexington, Forry of Boston, Walsh of Boston, O'Day of West Boylston, McCarthy of East Bridgewater, Straus of Mattapoisett, Kulik of Worthington, Grant of Beverly, Story of Amherst, Conroy of Wayland, Miceli of Wilmington, Hargraves of Groton, Peterson of Grafton and Smola of Palmer.

Resolutions.

The following resolutions (filed with the Clerk) were referred, under Rule 85, to the temporary committee on Rules:

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Fagan of Taunton) congratulating Donna Cordeiro-Tobin on the occasion of her retirement; Donna Cordeiro-Tobin.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Fagan of Taunton) congratulating Margaret J. Atwood on the occasion of her retirement; Margaret J. Atwood.

Resolutions (filed by Representatives Haddad of Somerset and D'Amico of Seekonk) congratulating Michael Jacob Berube on receiving the Eagle Award of the Boy Scouts of America; Michael Jacob Berube.

Resolutions (filed by Mrs. Haddad of Somerset) congratulating Dana K. Hilliard on the occasion of his retirement; Dana K. Hilliard.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Miceli of Wilmington) commemorating the service of SSGT Charles "Charlie" Codwell; Charles Codwell.

Resolutions (filed by Mr. Nyman of Hanover) congratulating Rockland Fire Chief Michael Sammon on the occasion of his retirement; Michael Sammon.

Mr. Scaccia of Boston, for the temporary committee on Rules, reported, in each instance, that the resolutions ought to be adopted. Under suspension of the rules, in each instance, on motion of Mr. Hecht of Watertown, the resolutions were considered forthwith; and they were adopted.

Order.

On motion of Mr. DiMasi of Boston,—
Ordered, That when the House adjourns today, it adjourn to meet on Wednesday next at eleven o'clock A.M. Next sitting.

At sixteen minutes after eleven o'clock A.M., on motion of Mr. Peterson of Grafton (Mr. Donato of Medford being in the Chair), the House adjourned, to meet the following Wednesday at eleven o'clock A.M.