UNITED NATIONS
ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL
PREPARATORY COMMITTEE
of the
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND EMPLOYMENT.

Verbatim Report
of the
FIRST MEETING
of
COMMITTEE I
held in
Committee Room 1,
Church House, Westminster, S.W.1
on
Friday, 18th October 1946
at
2.30 p.m.

Temporary Chairman: Mr. E. WYNDHAM WHITE (UK).

(From the Shorthand Notes of
W.B. GURNEY, SONS & FUNNELL
58 Victoria Street,
Westminster, S.W.1)
TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: It gives me great pleasure to declare open the first session of Committee I. on Employment and Economic Activity. The agenda for today's meeting, which I hope will be a short one, is set out in the Journal of the Preparatory Committee. Before proceeding to the first item on that agenda, which is the election of the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Committee, I should like first to introduce to the Committee its Secretary and Associate Secretaries. The Secretary of the Committee is Mr Stols, who is sitting on my right. The Associate Secretaries are Mr Johnson, on my left, and Miss Gray, sitting just beyond Mr Stols. I might perhaps add that the Committee Secretary and Associate Secretaries have received instructions, in common with their colleagues in the other Committees, not in any sense to spare the delegates but to keep them hard at work - if necessary even late into the night. I should also like to say that if there are any suggestions which any members of the Committee wish to make, either for their greater comfort or for the more effective conduct of the business of the Committee, then I should be most happy to receive those through the Secretary of the Committee, and we shall do our best to give effect to them. Finally, I would like to draw the attention of the Committee to the Rules of Procedure which have been adopted by the plenary Committee and which will govern the proceedings of this and the other working Committees. In particular, I would draw your attention to Rule 57, which provides that the Committees and Sub-Committees may, by agreement, decide to adopt Rules of Procedure regarding interpretation or translations of a more simple character than those laid down in the Rules, if the Committee feel that that would facilitate their business. In general, however, the procedure is that the working
languages of the Committee will be English and French, and interpretation between the working languages will be provided.

Now, proceeding to the first item on the agenda, the election of the Chairman and Vice-Chairman, I should like to call for nominations, first of all for the Chairman of the Committee.

MR JANDA (Czechoslovakia): Mr Chairman, I have the great honour to propose as Chairman of this Committee His Excellency Mr Wunsz King. I think that in the few days during which we have seen Mr Wunsz King working at this Conference we have been able to observe the great tact and diplomacy and wisdom which he possesses; and so I feel that my colleagues will be in agreement with me when I say that I think Mr Wunsz King would be the best suited to conduct the proceedings of this Committee.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: The Chinese delegate, Dr Wunsz King, has been proposed by the delegate of Czechoslovakia. Is that nomination seconded?

MR MALIK (India): I have great pleasure in seconding the motion.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: Are there any other nominations?

M. IGONET (France) (Speaking in French: interpretation):

I will also support the nomination of the delegate of China.

TEMPORARY CHAIRMAN: As there are no other nominations, I declare Dr Wunsz King unanimously elected as Chairman of Committee I. (Applause).

(Dr. Wunsz King then took the Chair.)

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I wish to extend to you my thanks for having elected me as Chairman of this Committee, Committee No. I. I feel this is an honour not only to myself but to China, which country I have the honour to represent, and I wish to add my thanks to the honourable delegate of
Czechoslovakia for having nominated me to this very difficult post, which nomination was warmly seconded by the delegates of India and France, and unanimously approved by my colleagues. From this time on I am the servant of this Committee, and I am counting upon your guidance and assistance.

Gentlemen, the second item on the agenda is the election of a Vice-Chairman. Does any delegate wish to make a nomination?

MR GOTZEN (Netherlands): Mr Chairman, may I propose for election as Vice-Chairman Mr Pierce, of the Department of External Affairs.

THE CHAIRMAN: The delegate of the Netherlands has nominated Mr Pierce as Vice-Chairman of this Committee. Does anyone support that nomination?

MR HELMORE (U.K.): I would like to second that nomination on behalf of the United Kingdom.

THE CHAIRMAN: The United Kingdom delegate has supported this nomination. Is there any other nomination? ... As there is no other nomination, I take it that the nomination of Mr Pierce has been unanimously approved. (Applause.)

MR PIERCE (Canada): Thank you very much, gentlemen.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, in the name of the Committee I would like to welcome here the representatives of the I.L.O., the F.A.O., the International Bank, and also the representative of the Government of Poland. They are all here in the capacity of observers, and we welcome them in that capacity. We must not forget also that we have here with us a representative of the International Monetary Fund as an observer.
Now we come to our actual business, and the second item on the agenda is the preliminary consideration of agenda and the programme of work. Shall we proceed to the consideration of our agenda first? I am sure you all have before you the paper entitled, "Suggested Agenda for Committee 1 on Employment and Economic Activity." As I understand this paper was submitted by the United States representative, may I call on the United States representative to say a word?

MR PIERSOK (USA): Mr Chairman, it was our thought in presenting this short suggested agenda to the Committee that it would serve to start our thinking, and we had the hope that after consideration of this as a starting point the Committee could, at the next meeting, bring any further thoughts, criticisms and additions, so that we might, at our first working meeting (assuming that this is not to be a working meeting) hope to come out at the end with a document that could serve as the agenda on which we would actually work. This is, as you see, a very general statement of thoughts to help guide the Committee, we hope, in preparing an actual agenda.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, the United States representative has submitted a paper in which are embodied some thoughts - to use his own words - about the agenda which will be taken, he hopes, as the basis on which we might be able to proceed in our work. Are there any observations on this paper?

MR MARTINS (Brazil)(Speaking in French: interpretation):

Mr Chairman, before we start our work in this present session may I ask you a question? I wish to know what has been done with the proposals from the Indian and Brazilian Delegations concerning the topics for discussion in this Preparatory Committee? These suggestions could perhaps also be taken into account in the work of the different sections of this
Committee and of other Committees. May I, therefore, ask you what has happened to these proposals, and what is likely to be their destination?

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, the delegate of Brazil has asked the Chair a question as to the destination of the proposals of Brazil and of India, and I would make a preliminary reply, in this sense: that, like all other proposals, the proposals of the Brazilian and Indian delegations will certainly be taken up and considered in the course of the discussions.

MR MARTINS (Brazil): Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other observations, gentlemen?

MR GOTZEN (Netherlands): Mr Chairman, I should be glad to get from someone an explanation of the words "to be considered jointly with Committee 2" which appear in this document.

THE CHAIRMAN: As I understand it, the United Kingdom representative wants to make a statement now.

MR HILMORE (U.K.): Mr Chairman, I think the Committee will remember that during the executive session there was considerable discussion on the proper place for considering the question of industrial development of under-developed or less developed countries as between our various Committees; and, in the solution that was put forward jointly by the delegates of the United States and Australia, a new heading was assigned to this subject, and it was, as it were, recognised that this subject would fall partly to Committee I, our present Committee, and partly to Committee II. It seems to the United Kingdom that it might be a convenient form of procedure if we were to recognise that situation straight away and agree in this Committee that, through the good offices of the Secretariat, at the end of the meeting of Committee II which is to take place shortly this afternoon a joint meeting of this Committee...
and of Committee II should take place in order to be ready to handle this question of industrial development and perhaps to organise its work or to consider how it should organise its work in a joint body.

DR COOMBS (Australia): Mr Chairman, I should like to support the suggestion put forward by the United Kingdom Delegation. The device of having the question of industrial development dealt with by a joint body consisting of Committee I and Committee II has the double advantage that it recognises the very great importance of that subject which is made clear by the expressions of opinion of the various delegations, while at the same time recognising that its consideration is intimately bound up with the work of both Committees I and II; and it does seem to me, therefore, that it is a very useful device to establish formally a joint body of the two Committees and to meet this afternoon, if possible, to consider how that joint body will proceed with its work.

MR MALIK (India): Sir, whilst we fully recognise the usefulness of the procedure suggested, there is just one point I wanted to mention, and that was this: that I presume this joint session will take the form of a separate Committee under a separate Chairman, and with a separate Vice-Chairman, and that it will be a body of exactly the same status and position as the other Committees.

MR HELMORE (U.K.): The Indian delegate has expressed exactly what I had in mind.

THE CHAIRMAN: Therefore, in reply to the inquiry of the Netherlands delegate we have had two statements from the United Kingdom delegate and the Australian delegate, and in addition the U.K. delegate was also good enough to have explained to the Indian delegate the status of this joint body which we have contemplated setting up. Are there any
MR HAKIM (Lebanon): I would like to ask a question as to the composition of this joint body. I understand that every one of the delegations is represented on both Committee I and Committee II, and in most cases I should think there would be different delegates representing the different countries on these two Committees. Would I be correct in understanding that the new joint body will contain 36 members instead of 18, or would it also be of the same size as Committee I and Committee II?

THE CHAIRMAN: The whole question of having a joint body to deal with the question of industrial development should be divided into two parts: first, whether there should be a joint body in connection with the two Committees, Committee I and Committee II; second, when this question has been disposed of, then we will come to the question of the size of that joint body. I take it, then, unless I hear to the contrary, that there should be a joint body which will deal with the question of industrial development and which would be more or less related to the two Committees, Committee I and Committee II? Are there any other observations on that point?

MR MARTINS (Brazil)(Speaking in French: interpretation): The observation I would like to make as to the setting up of this sixth body (because I think there will be a sixth Committee dealing with this question of industrial development) is that perhaps it will be necessary that in the meetings of the sixth Committee we should be assisted by all the members of the other Committees, because I think the work of this Committee will be of great importance in relation to the work of the other Committees; it certainly interests them all. So may I ask the Secretary to fix the times of the meetings of the Sixth Committee so as to enable the members of
the other Committees to attend if they desire.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other remarks?

MR PIERSON (USA): Mr Chairman, I suggest that it seems doubtful whether we would have the power to determine the question of whether there should be 18 or 36 members of this Committee, since the Committee as we have visualized it is a joint Committee derived jointly from Committee I and Committee II. I should think it might be necessary as a matter of procedure first to have the two Committees meet together and have them determine whether in their judgment it would be better to constitute the new joint Committee with two members from each country or one.

THE CHAIRMAN: As I take it - unless, of course, I am mistaken - this joint body is not exactly intended to be a sixth Committee. It will have the title of Joint Committee; I do not think it will be called Committee VI or Committee VII. Now, the Brazilian delegate and the Lebanese delegate have suggested, in regard to the size of that Committee, that every nation should be represented (I mean all the 17 nations) on that joint body. In the view of the United States delegate that question should be left to the joint session of Committee I and Committee II. Since this joint body is to be a joint body of Committee I and Committee II he seems to think that Committee I alone is not in a position to decide this question.

MR HAKIM (Lebanon): Since there is going to be a joint session of Committee I and Committee II it seems to me that before that joint session takes place we must have a ruling as to how many members that joint session will be composed of.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Mr Chairman, if I may, advise the Committee on this point, it does seem to me that the point raised by the Lebanese delegate does proceed from a misunderstanding. There is no fixed rule as to the numbers which may attend any
particular Committees. Each of the Committees does consist of 18 delegations, and it does seem to me that it is a question for the convenience and decision of each delegation as to what their attendance shall be at any particular Committee, and that that should apply equally to the Joint Committee as to any of the other single Committees.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does this explanation satisfy the Lebanese delegate?

MR HAKIM (Lebanon): Provisionally, yes.

MR MARTINS (Brazil)(Speaking in French: interpretation):
I did not want to raise the question of the composition of this joint body but to make sure we should not meet at times which would make it impossible for members of the other Committees to attend our meetings.

THE CHAIRMAN: I think the Executive Secretary will take care of that.

MR MARTINS (Brazil): Thank you.

THE CHAIRMAN: So, gentlemen, may I take it that that question of the size of the joint body should be left to the joint section of Committee I and Committee II?

MR MALIK (India): There are two points involved. First of all, there seems to be some conflict of opinion as to the character of this new body. Suggestions have been made that it should be a joint body. A committee is a well-defined body with a chairman and a vice-chairman and a rapporteur, and a separate set of proceedings as well. A suggestion was put forward that it might be a joint session of the two Committees. Surely, Sir, the character of this body should be decided by the two Committees? If it is going to be a joint Committee of two separate Committees, then we should discuss this question in the other Committee, Committee II, before we arrive at any final
decision as to the character of this body. It is not for Committee I to decide what sort of organisation shall be set up to deal with problems which are common to both Committees.

MR HELMORE (U.K.): It is a few minutes since I made my original proposition, so perhaps I might just repeat it very shortly. It was that we ought to contemplate the necessity for this joint body and that through the Secretariat a message should go from this Committee to Committee II asking for a joint meeting immediately Committee II has finished its own business of setting itself up, at which the method of procedure, etc., etc., of this joint body which we think would be necessary could be discussed.

THE CHAIRMAN: If there are no other remarks I will ask the Secretariat to be good enough to prepare this message which will be sent on to Committee II, so that at the close of both Committee I and Committee II there will immediately be a joint session of Committee I and Committee II to settle that question. May I take it that is agreed? (Agreed.)

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Mr Chairman, I think for the convenience of the members we might now agree in principle that the joint session shall take place in Committee Room 2 at the end of the meeting of Committee II, except that I shall first have to make enquiries as to whether there will be sufficient accommodation there for both Committees at the first joint meeting. I will inform members before the end of this meeting as to what arrangements have been made.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, we now proceed to item 3, which is an explanation by the Executive Secretary as to the arrangements for the making of records of Committee meetings.

DR COOMBS (Australia): Before we turn to that item, may I take
it that the suggested agenda has been provisionally approved?

THE CHAIRMAN: I take it that is the wish of the Committee.

DR COOMBS (Australia): It is clear, then, that it leaves it open to the Committee to alter that agenda progressively as its work proceeds?

THE CHAIRMAN: Mr Delegate, I think that is the understanding. I will now call on the Executive Secretary.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Mr Chairman, I think you will recall that the plenary Committee, in considering the Rules of Procedure, has ruled that the meetings of the working Committees shall be private meetings. In these circumstances, the Secretariat has made the following arrangements for the records of the Committee. All the sessions of the Committee will be the subject of a verbatim record, which will be a restricted document, not for publication, but which will be made available to all the delegations. There will also be a precis or summary record in the nature of minutes of the proceedings, which will also be a restricted document, but made available to all delegations. In addition to that, I would like to suggest that the Secretariat should draw up at the end of each day's work a short summary of the day's proceedings for inclusion in the Journal of the Preparatory Committee. That will be a brief summary and it will only be issued for inclusion in the Journal after it has been approved by the Chairman who, in his discretion, may rule that the Secretariat must clear it with one or more delegations in the Committee, or even, if he so desires, with the whole Committee. I hope, however, for practical reasons, that this latter alternative will be rare, and that the Secretariat will see that the summary is of a general character and does not therefore publish statements.
which delegates would prefer not to be included in public
documents.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other remarks on this subject?

MR HELMORE (U.K.): Mr Chairman, I think we would all agree
with that if the Secretariat would take it as a general
rule not to attribute to particular delegations statements
of any views.

MR FRESQUET (Cuba): Would the delegate of the United Kingdom
mind repeating his observation?

MR HELMORE (U.K.): Mr Chairman, what I wanted to say was
that I thought we would all agree with the proposals of
the Secretariat for the inclusion of a passage in the
Journal if the Secretariat, in drawing up these passages,
would be careful not to attribute to particular delegations
the statements of any particular views.

THE CHAIRMAN: Gentlemen, I understand the Rules of Procedure
have provided for the appointment of a Rapporteur for
each Committee. I wonder if you have any idea as to
who should be the Rapporteur of this Committee. Does
anyone want to speak on that subject?

MR HELMORE (U.K.): Mr Chairman, I wonder if we could
postpone that question for a while? We do not quite
know how our proceedings are going to go. They may divide
themselves into several subjects or several sections of a
subject, and it might be convenient if we left that question
for a while so as to reserve to ourselves perfect freedom
not to impose on one individual the very onerous task of
reporting on this rather wide subject matter.

THE CHAIRMAN: If this is also the desire of the Committee, this
question will be postponed to a later stage of our
proceedings. (Agreed.)

Gentlemen, now we have to fix a date for the next
meeting. 13.
DR COOMBS (Australia): I would like to raise one small point with the Secretariat and that is in relation to the circulation of the documents. I understand that some documents have been submitted by various delegations (including, I may say, some by our own delegation) which have been given a restricted circulation. So far I believe the numbers of copies of those documents which have been made available to the delegations have been limited to two per delegation. Since the ones which we have put forward (being the only ones I know anything about) were designed to assist the work of the various Committees, I think it would be of assistance to delegations if they could receive a larger number of copies of those documents, so that the various members of the delegations would have an opportunity to study them.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: Mr Chairman, we shall be very happy to meet the wishes of the Australian delegate. It would perhaps be helpful if we could know from the various delegations how many copies they would like to have, because, if we are to retain the advantages of a restricted circulation, it is desirable to know how many copies go to each delegation, as that enables them to be controlled by the delegations.

As regards the date of the next meeting, I think that, in fairness to the Committee and in deference to the general understanding that we are trying to avoid any clash between meetings, I should read to the Committee a suggestion which I have proposed to make to all the Committees for meetings on Monday. I would suggest that Committee I should meet on Monday morning at 10.30. There will be at the same time a meeting of Committee IV, but no other Committee meetings on Monday morning. In the afternoon, at 3 o'clock, there will be meetings of Committees II, III and V.
I shall be glad to know whether that arrangement, whereby Committee I meets at 10.30, at the same time as Committee IV, on Monday, would be acceptable to the Committee.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are these arrangements convenient to the delegations?

MR HELMORE (U.K.): Mr Chairman, I think it will not be convenient that as a general rule Committees I and IV should meet together, nor do I think it would be for the convenience of many delegations that as many as three Committees should meet together, as is contemplated for Monday afternoon, but, if the Secretariat wish to proceed with getting Committees under way on Monday, and exceptionally for that purpose want this number of meetings, then I would not wish to press the objection at all.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: I suggest we might have Committee V at 5 p.m. and the other two at 3 p.m. That might help.

M. IGONET (France) (Speaking in French: interpretation): Mr Chairman, generally speaking I should be very happy if our morning meetings were held at 11 a.m. only, so as to enable our staff to have consultations in advance.

THE CHAIRMAN: The Secretary thinks it would be a little bit difficult to meet your wishes.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY: The difficulty is that it only provides at the best for 2½ hours discussion, with translation, and as people will probably be going away to lunch early I think to lose half an hour at the beginning of the day will not help our progress, and I think every effort should be made to save that time.

THE CHAIRMAN: Then shall we do this? We will meet on Monday morning at 10.30 and then we will see how that works, and if
that sort of arrangement causes too much inconvenience to
the French delegation, and perhaps to some other delega-
tions, then the Secretariat will see to it that some other
modification is arrived at.

MR MALIK (India): Before we disperse there is one more point
about which we are doubtful and feel strongly, and that is
about the purpose and object of all these discussions.
What exactly is to be the character of the conclusions
which this Committee will be expected to reach? Are we
going to take part in the framing of a Charter, or will
the views expressed by the various delegations be placed
on record for further consideration by the Governments
concerned? This is a point about which the Australian
delegate spoke this morning, and we agree completely with
the views he then put forward. We do feel that this
question ought to be taken up at some stage or other.
At the moment we are not clear what the position is at
all.

THE CHAIRMAN: Inasmuch as the United States is the author
of the Charter, may I have the privilege of calling upon
the United States delegate to give some observations?

MR PIERSON (USA): Mr Chairman, I think the views of the
United States are that we are not committed to any rigid
decision as to what form our work will come out in. I
think we are only bound at the present moment (if I am
wrong I hope someone will correct me) by the action
taken by the Conference which assigned as a topic for this
Committee the item that appears as (a) in the suggested
agenda: in other words, a general agreement relating to the
achievement and maintenance of high and steadily rising levels
of employment and economic activity; and then, with
Committee II, an international agreement relating to
industrial development. I do not believe we are bound with
regard to the action that we may wish to take with regard to agreements that we may think are desirable. It is the view of the United States that in general the Draft Charter that we have circulated to the other Governments and have published would be a useful guide, but I doubt whether at the present moment anything more precise than that could really in fairness be said. May I add to that one further remark? I was addressing my remarks a moment ago to the question of what I understand we are seeking to do at these meetings. I do note that the Economic and Social Council, in its resolution of the 18th February 1946, did constitute a Preparatory Committee to elaborate an annotated draft agenda, including a draft convention, for consideration by the Conference, taking into account suggestions that may be submitted to it by the Economic and Social Council or by any member of the United Nations. I take it that before the Preparatory Committee will have completed its work it was the view of the Economic and Social Council that that should be accomplished.

DR COOMBS (Australia): When this matter was discussed between the heads of the various delegations this morning, my understanding of the conclusion tentatively reached was that it was difficult at this stage to determine in what precise form the report or the work of this Conference should be presented, and it was suggested therefore that the determination of the question might be left for a day or two, during which time it would perhaps become clearer in what form the various delegations thought the results of our labours could best be presented for the meeting of the Preparatory Committee which will take place next year. Whilst I am still of the same opinion that I expressed at that time - that it is a question of some urgency to determine for our own
guidance the type of document which we are seeking to produce in this Conference - I agree that it is a little difficult to be certain today, and therefore I would suggest to my friend from India that we might leave that question for today; but I agree we should return to it at a relatively early stage.

MR MARTINS (Brazil)(Speaking in French: interpretation): Mr Chairman, I wish to make a few remarks concerning the observations of the United States delegate. The Draft Charter which comes from the United States delegation for consideration here can surely be a good guide on which we could base our studies in this Conference, but may I say that the Brazilian delegation has itself also presented a set of considerations which follow exactly, the same order as those of the United States document, therefore I suggest that it may be useful in our discussions to follow the two together, so as to have before us permanently in the course of our work the two different proposals.

THE CHAIRMAN: Are there any other comments? Perhaps it is felt that we cannot settle this question today, in view of the importance of it, or that it can even be settled by the members of this Committee alone.

MR PIERSON (USA): Mr Chairman, I would say only this in reply to the delegate from Brazil. It was our thought that in general the Draft Charter would provide a convenient basis for the work of the various Committees. In the case of this Committee I we had listened to the discussions in the executive and plenary sessions and we thought that a somewhat better basis than was provided by the short section in the Draft Charter could be provided by this short paper which is a suggested outline of topics for the agenda. Our thought, if I may repeat what I said at the outset, was that
members could take this with them and consider it and at the next meeting bring in their thoughts for changes or for inclusion of further items. Out of that we might agree, if we choose, at the end of the next meeting to frame a definite agenda, or we may, if we find that more convenient, do as I think the Australian delegate implied earlier - leave the matter continuously open at the moment. It seems to me that that is a matter we can deal with when we meet, and I should certainly feel that the proposals that have been put forward by the Government of Brazil should be treated in that same way, along with our proposals, and woven together into a schedule that we can conveniently follow in order to give whatever the necessary amount of order may be to our work as we proceed.

THE CHAIRMAN: Does that statement satisfy the Brazilian and Australian delegates, and the delegate of India?

MR MARTINS (Brazil): Yes.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY: Mr Chairman, for the information of the Committee I would draw attention to some papers which have been prepared by the Secretariat. There is a paper on organisations concerned with economic and employment matters. There is another paper which is a note on unemployment policy by a member of the Netherlands Delegation, Professor Tinbergen. A third paper is a note on employment policy and foreign trade. Then we will have on Monday another paper, a memorandum on the objectives of the International Trade Organisation in respect to employment; and, further, a paper giving a survey of the terms of reference of the Economic and Employment Commission of the Economic and Social Council and of the two Sub-Commissions which have been created in the last session at Lake Success.
I think this material will be helpful for the members of the Committee in considering the whole problem. These papers are prepared as working papers, and as information and material which can be useful in the consideration of the problem.

THE CHAIRMAN: There will be a meeting of the joint session of the two Committees, Committee I and Committee II, at 4.30 approximately, in the Hoare Memorial Hall.

The next meeting of this Committee will be on Monday next at 10.30 a.m.

The meeting rose at 4 p.m.