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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 2006 : 07 : 13 : Minutes

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JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD OF PINELLAS COUNTY
Regular Meeting – July 13, 2006
MINUTES

Present: Van Saylor, Chair; Joseph A. Smith, Vice Chair; John Milford, Secretary; Cecilia Burke; Bob Dillinger; Bernie McCabe; Commissioner Kenneth T. Welch; Beth Wilson; Will Michaels, Interim Executive Director; Terry Smiljanich, Board Counsel; Amy Daly, Executive Assistant

Absent: Ms. Caramello, Judge Sullivan, Dr. Wilcox

Mr. Saylor called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Mr. Dillinger to approve the agenda for the July 13, 2006 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Mr. Smith to approve the minutes of the June 8, 2005 regular meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

There were no Executive Committee actions.

ACTION-CONSENT A motion was made by Mr. Milford, seconded by Commissioner Welch and passed unanimously to approve the Action-Consent agenda as follows:

Youth & Sexual Activity Task Force Letters Approve the two letters to be sent to parents of 7th grade public school students and private school principals as part of the 13-week pilot Youth and Sexual Activity Social Marketing Campaign.

Appoint Members To Comm. Coun. Appoint the following applicants to the Community Councils: Monica Rodriguez, Kim Walters, Gail Eggeman, Thomas Minkoff, Jr., Joseph Triolo

ACTION

Fiscal Year 2006-07 Budget Prior to a motion, Board questions and comment centered on the proposed school research position and declaring a conflict of interest.

During discussion of the proposed school research position, Dr. Michaels noted the email at Board members' places from Dr. Wilcox indicating his support for the position. In response to the Board's concern, staff noted that addition of this position would result in more timely access to information/research data such as school truancy, discipline issues and testing and that safeguards

were in place to assure that the position would be responsible for only JWB related information/data and not be utilized for the Pinellas County Schools' research needs.

Following Mr. Saylor's declaration of a conflict of interest, Mr. Smiljanich noted that conflict of interest focuses on personal financial gain and that though past Board's had more narrowly defined conflict of interest, it was not necessary to do so. In response to Mr. McCabe's question about the funding for the State's Attorney program funded by JWB, Mr. Smiljanich offered his opinion that as there was no personal financial gain, Mr. McCabe did not need to declare a conflict of interest - nor did Mr. Saylor for his aforementioned declaration.

Two speakers addressed the Board. Mr. Art O'Hara, Executive Director, R' Club noted that reduction in the millage rate would result in a small saving to the taxpayer which could be better utilized to offset the 3000 children currently on the child care waiting list as well as those children needing before and after school care. Ms. Linda Tamanini, Director, Pinellas County License Board, advocated for Option B (2% millage reduction) and stressed the need for child care as well.

Following a discussion on the merits of Options B (2% millage reduction) and B- (3% millage reduction), a motion was made.

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Dillinger and seconded by Commissioner Welch to approve the millage rate for FY 2006-07 of 0.7963 and the total budget for FY 2006-07 of \$65,066,917, special conditions and the salary and classification plan. The motion passed unanimously.

**Award Contract-
Gender Specific
Girls**

During discussion of the staff recommendation to allocate funding to the YWCA of Tampa Bay for implementation of a gender specific girls program, the Board sought clarification on the recommended special condition that the program be monitored for its financial status and whether it should be placed on a "corrective action" plan. Staff noted that the program was not on a "corrective action" plan, thereby allowing for a contract award in response to the RFP. As well, staff indicated that there are currently no agencies on "corrective action" solely for holding checks. In response to a Board question, staff noted that the YWCA was also chosen due to the stronger family intervention component in their proposal and their ability to begin the program earlier than the Sanderlin Center. Ms. Susan Finlaw-Dusseault, Executive Director, YWCA of Tampa Bay, addressed the Board, noting that the YWCA had taken steps to improve its financial status, including the closing of two centers, a hiring freeze and the addition of an experienced fiscal staff member. Ms. Finlaw-Dusseault also stressed that the YWCA was not on a "corrective

action” plan and therefore eligible to apply for and receive contract awards.

Motion

A motion was made by Commissioner Welch and seconded by Ms. Burke to allocate up to \$87,500 in FY 05-06 and up to \$350,000 in FY 06-07 to the Neighborhood Family Coalition who will then subcontract with the Sanderlin Center to implement a gender specific girls program. The motion passed unanimously.

Staff noted that the “corrective action” process will be reviewed.

Fiscal Impact: The Board’s New and Expanded Pool for Gender Specific Girls Program for FY 2005-06 will be reduced by \$87,500 from \$116,666 to \$29,166. The fiscal impact in FY 2006-07 will be \$350,000.

Award Contract- Targeted Needs

As the recommended action was for three individual allocations, the Board voted on the items separately.

Suncoast Center

A motion was made by Mr. McCabe and seconded by Ms. Burke to allocate to Suncoast Center for Community Mental Health up to \$50,317 in FY 2005-06 and budget \$305,395 in FY 2006-07 to implement the South County Brief Intervention Partnership. The motion passed unanimously.

YWCA

A motion was made by Mr. McCabe and seconded by Mr. Dillinger to allocate to the YWCA of Tampa Bay up to \$69,000 in FY 2005-06 and \$276,000 in FY 2006-07 for the Hispanic Services Alliance/Allianza de Servicio Hispanos and include a condition that the provider cooperate with JWB staff in monthly monitoring of the agency’s financial status, by providing monthly financial statements. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Robin Gomez, City of Clearwater, thanked the Board for the funding and noted the importance of the program to the community.

Housing Authority of Tarpon Springs

Prior to a motion to approve funding to the Housing Authority of Tarpon Springs, Board questions/comment centered on the methodology for evaluating applications during the RFP process, particularly the procedures for the rating process and two rounds of scoring. Mr. David Archie, Executive Director, Citizens’ Alliance for Progress (CAP), expressed his concern with the Board approved RFP procedures and suggested a formalized method for the Board Review Panel members to score the applications during the review process as well. Mr. Archie distributed the March 9, 2006 Board memo requesting approval of the release of a RFP for targeted needs funding, including the Tarpon Springs community. Joining Mr. Archie in requesting a “consistent approach” in awarding contracts as a result of the RFP process were speakers, Rev. Milton Smith and

Eustace Cummings-John. Following a staff suggestion to reschedule award of the contract until the September meeting to allow staff to review the RFP procedures and a recommendation to continue to fund the Tarpon Springs Housing Authority through September 30, a motion was made.

Motion:

A motion was made by Mr. Milford and seconded by Commissioner Welch to allocate up to \$44,000 to the Tarpon Springs Housings Authority in FY 05-06 to continue the SELECT program (Successful Enrichment & Learning Experiences for Children Today) and defer award of the contract for FY 2006-07 to the September 2006 regular Board meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Fiscal Impact: The Board's Targeted Needs-Based Strategy Fund for FY 2005-06 will be reduced by \$163,317 from \$190,683. The fiscal impact in FY 2006-07 will be \$757,395.

Following the motion, Mr. McCabe questioned the necessity of issuing a RFP; Mr. Dillinger suggested a need to consider more global rather than silo funding; and Mr. Sayler suggested this may be an area a new executive director would need to consider.

**Florida
Children's Summit**

A motion was made by Ms. Burke and seconded by Mr. Milford to support the registration activities for the Florida Children's Summit via the JWB Training Center web-based registration system. The motion passed unanimously.

BOARD DISCUSSION

Mr. Sayler reminded the Board that new officers would be elected at the September meeting. He also noted that JWB can bring "transparency" to the child welfare system and suggested inclusion of the statistics such as those provided in the Legislative Update to the Board as well as other Community Based Care information on the JWB website.

Commissioner Welch thanked Dr. Spence for his participation in the Drug Paraphernalia Abatement Task Force and noted the copy of the report at Board Members' places.

Ms. Burke addressed the Cultural Diversity plan and shared her discomfort with the definition of diversity on page 7, particularly use of the word "value." It was suggested that a new executive director may wish to review this issue with the Board.

Mr. Dillinger noted that his copy of the annual report appeared blurry. Ms. Helmuth agreed to review the printing process to assure the quality of the printing.

INFORMATION

During the Executive Director's report Dr. Michaels provided updates on the Executive Director search process and the work to

date of the Human Services Disaster Recovery Task Force, requesting assistance from Commissioner Welch on the need to have closure on the county's staging sites during/after a hurricane.

Mr. Milford noted the Joint Community Council meeting scheduled for 6:30 p.m. and that he planned to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John Milford, Secretary