

5-28-1953

## Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1953 : 05 : 28 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting of May 28, 1953

Held in Clearwater

Present were Mrs. Strickland, chairman; Commissioner Parry, secretary; Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Christian, Judge Gardiner, and Dr. Williams, Director.

Motion: A motion was made by Mrs. Jackson and seconded by Commissioner  
Minutes Parry to approve the minutes of the May 14 meeting as read.  
Motion carried.

There was some discussion by the Board of the plan for Walter Williams. The Director reported that plans were being made to send him to The Southern Institute for the summer session as agreed upon at the last Board meeting.

There were some questions asked about developments in reference to the employment of Leonard Summers and plans for Mr. Mancuso. Mr. Christian indicated that there was a good possibility that Mr. Mancuso might be taken into the school system as a visiting teacher. Judge Gardiner indicated that he was still considering the status of Mr. Summers, which has not yet been determined.

Motion: Mrs. Jackson moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that  
Expenditures expenditures as covered by checks Nos. 3113 - 3127 in the General Operating Fund and checks Nos. 404 - 410 in the In-School Counseling Fund be approved for payment. Motion carried.

Dr. Williams reported on the meeting of agency executives engaged in placing children in foster homes. This meeting was held for the purpose of working out ways of giving recognition to foster parents. In the discussion it was suggested by Board members that certificates be prepared for distribution to foster parents and that perhaps one or more savings bonds be given to foster parents on the basis of length of service or other suitable basis.

The Director read a request from Miss Lovely for funds to provide two weeks of Girl Scout Camp experience for a girl in Tarpon Springs. In the discussion the Board felt that this was not a proper use of tax funds, but:

Motion: Mr. Christian moved and Commissioner Parry seconded a motion  
Girl Scout Camp to authorize use of donated funds to send the girl to camp.  
Motion carried.

Upon request from the Board members, the secretary, Commissioner Parry, read Judge Gardiner's letter to the members of the Juvenile Welfare Board. The discussion of the Judge's statements to and request of the Board of County Commissioners followed, with some Board members emphasizing the desirability of consulting with the Board before one member of the Board issued statements regarding matters of general interest to the Board. The members expressed their disagreement with the statements contained in the Judge's letter to the Commissioners regarding the increase in juvenile delinquency in Pinellas County and the need for the County to provide institutional facilities as a substitute for those now provided or which should be provided by the state.



Judge Gardiner requested time to study the report prepared by the Director on the number of cases of juvenile delinquency and dependency in the Court prior to its release to the other members of the Board. Mrs. Holland urged immediate attention to this matter.

Motion:

Setting forth  
Position of  
Board on  
Detention home  
for Pinellas  
County

Mrs. Jackson moved and Mr. Christian seconded a motion that the Juvenile Welfare Board go on record as being opposed to the request of Judge Gardiner for \$500,000 to build a detention home in Pinellas County; that the Board feels that the responsibility for providing institutional care for delinquents is a responsibility of the State and that Pinellas County should not take over that responsibility and use County funds for building and staffing an institution for the small number of children requiring detention care; that detention homes have not proven satisfactory in many places; that the County's own experience with such an institution has indicated its undesirability; that the Juvenile Welfare Board's annual and monthly reports giving the statistics from the Juvenile Court records have shown no large increase in delinquency; that the increase in population has not been accompanied by a comparable increase in the number of children appearing in the Court; that the present program in the County has been recognized as being outstanding. The motion carried with Judge Gardiner abstaining from voting.

A request was read from Mrs. Dame and Mrs. Baeza for educational leave to attend a seminar workshop offered by the School of Social Welfare, Florida State University, from June 15 to July 3 on case work in schools.

Motion:

Education  
leave

Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Harrison seconded a motion that the request for educational leave for Mrs. Dame and Mrs. Baeza be granted. Motion carried.

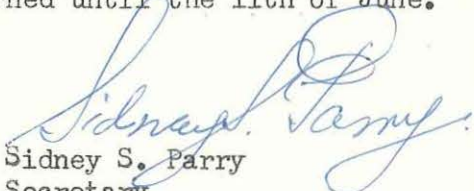
Dr. Williams presented an invitation from the executive committee of the Blue Ridge Institute of Southern Social Work Executives to participate in the 26th Annual Session of the Institute from July 27 to 31 at Blue Ridge, North Carolina.

Motion:

Director to  
Blue Ridge

Mrs. Holland moved and Mrs. Harrison seconded a motion that Dr. Williams be authorized to attend the Blue Ridge Institute with expenses paid by the Juvenile Welfare Board. Motion carried.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned until the 11th of June.

  
Sidney S. Parry  
Secretary