

10-11-1951

## Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1951 : 10 : 11 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Minutes of October 11, 1951

Present Mrs. Bartlett, Chairman, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Strickland, Judge Gardiner and Mrs. Meador. Also present was Dr. Williams, Director.

In connection with the discussion at the last meeting regarding nurseries to be operated by churches, a letter from the President of the Ministerial Association of Upper Pinellas County to the Clearwater Sun was read and discussed.

There was an election of officers. Mrs. Bartlett was nominated as chairman of the Board for another year to succeed herself by Mrs. Holland. Mrs. Meador seconded the nomination. Mrs. Strickland moved the nominations be closed which was seconded by Judge Gardiner and the motion was carried unanimously. Mrs. Holland nominated Mrs. Strickland as secretary for the coming year. Mrs. Meador nominated Mrs. Holland who withdrew her name from consideration. Mrs. Strickland nominated Mrs. Meador. The ballots were counted and Mrs. Strickland was elected as secretary for the coming year.

The minutes of the September 27 meeting were read and approved with the addition of Red Cross to complete Nurses' Aide and to differentiate them from other types of Nurses' Aides. This change was in connection with the suggestion by Mrs. Holland that a nurses' aide might be secured for each of the church nurseries. The addition will make the sentence read, "Mrs. Holland suggested that the Red Cross Nurses' Aide might be secured for each of the churches undertaking this type of service."

At this point in the meeting Miss Brown, Supervisor of the Child Welfare Unit of the District #4 Welfare Board, came in to report on the activities of the Child Welfare Unit during the past year for the period October 1, 1950 through September 30, 1951.

She reported that 329 children have been given help by the Child Welfare Unit; 73 of these involved investigation in connection with adoption. She reported that the staff of the Child Welfare Unit consisted of a Supervisor, 3 social workers, and 2 stenographers. There have been a number of staff changes during this period which Miss Brown described. Miss Brown herself has only been active since July when Miss Byers, the former Supervisor, resigned to attend graduate school of social work. In describing the nature of requests for service Miss Brown reported that:

Placements of children away from home	84
Casework Services to Unmarried Mothers	61
Housekeeper Services	8
Consultative help with family problems affecting children	48
Social Studies	34
Adoptive Studies for Court	73
Supervision of child for other agencies	14
Consultative services to couples wanting to adopt a child	7

Sources of Request:

Families own	38
School	11
Health Agency	13
Other Agencies in County	55
Other Agencies within State	5

Other agencies outside State	32
Court and Probation Department	35
Relatives	3
Other individuals	15
Adoption Petition (Circuit Court)	73
Other Districts	43
Family Unit	6

#### Action Taken

Rejection taken-not within function	8
Withdrawn	11
Referred to other agencies	12
Accepted	298

#### Sources of Fund

Juvenile Welfare Board for Direct Services	\$ 20,708.64
State Fund for Direct Services	6,166.43
Contributions from relatives and clubs	1,776.59

\$ 28,651.66

#### Detention Care

96.00

#### Total

\$ 28,747.66

Miss Brown did not have the complete figures for staff salaries, travel expenses and office expenses which are contributions by the State and Federal government for administrative operations.

Miss Brown then told about two interesting cases to illustrate the nature of the work which the Child Welfare Unit is carrying on. She mentioned one family where the mother needed to go to a TB sanitarium in order to recover and to prevent her children from becoming infected. She told how this was worked out in the best interest of the children and of the mother. The other case was one of an unmarried mother where the parents had rejected the child and would have nothing more to do with her. In the discussion that followed it was indicated that some plans should be worked out to insure that those persons responsible for the misfortunes of children should be required to pay the cost of caring for those children if that is at all possible. The problem of getting the mother to see that she was unable to properly care for the child and to give it the kind of supervision it needed was finally worked out so that she is now placing the child for adoption.

Upon motion by Mrs. Meador and seconded by Mrs. Holland and passed by the Board, expenditures covered by Checks 2330 through 2345 inclusive in the General Operating Fund were approved. Also approved under the same motion were expenditures from the School Counseling Fund covered by Checks 222 through 225.

The Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board reported that the Board had received \$200 to care for the Mongoloid Child, at least on a promise to pay \$50 a month. The first \$50 has been paid. This donation is being given by the Mothers' Christian Study Club Council. Dr. Williams also reported that at the end of September \$760.28 was available to be used in special funds. The discussion in regard to the Church nurseries resulted in an agreement on the part of the Board members to discuss the matter with their pastors and bring back to the next meeting, further comments regarding the practicability of operating nurseries in connection with the churches as proposed in the previous meeting.

Judge Gardiner reported that he had received an application from Norman Eubanks in regard to a job as counselor for the Juvenile Court. There was some discussion in regard to the need for an additional counselor in view of the relatively low case load now being carried by the Juvenile Court staff, and particularly in view of the fact that the elimination of the 17 year olds from Juvenile Court jurisdiction will reduce the number of cases coming in to court according to available figures by about 25 percent. Judge Gardiner stated that he did not wish to employ an additional worker if such a worker was not needed.

Mrs. Holland pointed out that the Juvenile Welfare Board has a regularly established procedure for dealing with all vacancies which includes, 1) official public notice of such a vacancy to be filled with the salary and qualifications given, 2) applications to be directed to the Personnel Committee of the Juvenile Welfare Board which sifts these applications and interviews applicants and makes recommendations to the Juvenile Welfare Board in regard to the best qualified person for the job, 3) recommendations by the Juvenile Welfare Board to the appointing official and approval of salary for such a position and for the person recommended.

Mrs. Bartlett reported that she had a letter from the Chairman of the District Welfare Board in regard to the agreement between the District Welfare Board and the Juvenile Welfare Board. This letter indicated that the District Welfare Board would like to have a committee appointed to meet with the committee of that board to discuss possible changes in the agreement. Mrs. Bartlett appointed Judge Gardiner, Mrs. Bartlett, and Dr. Williams to meet with the District Welfare Board in regard to this agreement.

There being no further business the meeting adjourned until the next meeting date in October at Clearwater at 9:30 a.m. on October 25th.

Kathleen Strickland

*Kathleen Strickland*