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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1953 : 01 : 22 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting of January 22, 1953
Held in St. Petersburg

The Board met at a special meeting in Judge Victor O. Wehle's courtroom for the presentation of special service awards to Marguerite Blocker Bartlett and Leonard Summers. The Board has given these service awards to only two other people to date, the first to Mr. W. Henry Belcher; the second to Judge Alfred Marshall.

The meeting was attended by representatives from the boards and staffs of the social agencies of the County, by the members of the Board of County Commissioners, representatives from the educational department, and former members of the Juvenile Welfare Board. The service awards were presented by Mrs. Strickland, chairman, and Mr. Parry, secretary of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

The following people volunteered expressions of commendation of those receiving the award and of the Juvenile Welfare Board's work: Mr. C. Hosey Wick, Chairman of the Board of County Commissioners; Mr. W. Henry Belcher, former member of the Juvenile Welfare Board; Judge William G. Gardiner of the Juvenile Court; Dr. J. A. Bond, supervisor of Negro Education in the County; Mrs. Rob Roy Meador, former member of the Juvenile Welfare Board; Mrs. Nenabelle G. Dame, Supervisor of the In-School Counseling Project.

This was followed by the regular meeting of the Board held in the Board offices in the County Building, St. Petersburg.

Present were Mrs. Strickland, Chairman; Commissioners Parry, Secretary; Judge Gardiner; Mrs. Holland; Mrs. Jackson; and Dr. Williams, Director.

Mrs. Nenabelle G. Dame, Supervisor of the In-School Counseling Project, told the Board something of the work of the project, and introduced Miss Ruth Painter, who gave a short outline of the work she has been doing with a 13 year old girl. The need for work with unhappy, emotionally disturbed girls and boys who seek satisfaction in small gangs or group activities was illustrated and emphasized by the case presented and in the discussion that followed.

The use of community agencies to the best possible advantage was emphasized and illustrated by reference to the November report listing the number of agencies used on behalf of children with whom the In-School Counseling Program is working.

A letter from the Junior League of St. Petersburg approving use of funds from the League and notifying the Board of the termination of its financial support was read, as was the acknowledgement and expression of appreciation for the service which the Junior League has given to the Board and to the children of the County.

Dr. Williams reported on a meeting with the Junior League and the Superintendent of Public Instruction in regard to planning for continuation of In-School Counseling in the seven schools now being covered. He submitted a tentative proposal for the continuation of this counseling service for Board consideration and future action.

The minutes of the January 8 meeting were read and approved.
A letter and report from Reverend Thomas Fitzgerald of Chicago regarding indecent literature was read and discussed. It was agreed that the Board would give consideration to the selection of members of a committee to advise in regard to methods of reducing the distribution of objectionable literature.

Motion: Expenditures

Mrs. Holland moved and Mrs. Jackson seconded a motion approving expenditures covered by checks No. 2967 to 2982 in the General Operating Account and checks No. 351 to 355 in the In-School Counseling Account.

A letter to Governor Dan McCarty from Mr. Sidney Parry regarding the appointment of Mrs. Ed Harris to the Juvenile Welfare Board was read. Judge Gardiner reported that conferences had been held in Tallahassee regarding her appointment but that final word had not been received.

A letter from Mrs. Jackson inviting the Board and staff to attend a meeting of the Tampa Regional Mental Hygiene Society at the recreation center in Tampa on January 26 was read.

The Director read a number of letters from various parts of the country expressing appreciation for the Fifth Annual Report.

Discussion of November activities reports was postponed until the next meeting to be held in Clearwater on February 12.

Sidney S. Parry
Secretary