9-13-1951

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1951: 09: 13: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

Follow this and additional works at: https://digital.usfsp.edu/jwb_meetings

Recommended Citation
https://digital.usfsp.edu/jwb_meetings/75

This Other is brought to you for free and open access by the Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County at Digital USFSP. It has been accepted for inclusion in Junior Welfare Board Agendas/Minutes by an authorized administrator of Digital USFSP.
Minutes of September 13, 1951

Present were Mrs. Bartlett, Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Strickland, Mrs. Meador, Judge Gardiner. Also present was Dr. Williams, the Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

Minutes of the August 16 meeting were read and approved as read.

Judge Gardiner reported that the child was returned to Pennsylvania as approved by the Board at the last meeting. Dr. Williams stated that the full $80 appropriated for this purpose was not used.

Dr. Williams and Mrs. Bartlett reported on meetings with the Board of County Commissioners and the approval by that board of payment to the Juvenile Welfare Board of the deficit between the amount collected in taxes and the $75,000 approved for the budget of the Juvenile Welfare Board. This amounted to $4,073.25.

Expenditures covered by Checks 2242 through 2287 in the general operating fund and checks 206 through 213 in the School Counseling Fund were approved on motion made by Mrs. Holland and Seconded by Mrs. Strickland and by unanimous vote of board members present.

Judge Gardiner moved and Mrs. Meador seconded a motion that the Juvenile Welfare Board request the Budget Commission to approve a transfer of $1,500 from the Juvenile Homes Account to the Foster Home Care Account. This motion was passed unanimously and it was arranged for members of the Board to meet with the Budget Commission on September 19 for the presentation of this request.

Dr. Williams reported that there was an item of expense for materials to put in a partition for field work students to have offices in the South Side Junior High School, which was approved last year. This work was done in cooperation with the Public Schools. The public schools furnished the labor and the Juvenile Welfare Board in its In School Counseling Project agreed to pay for the materials used. It was agreed that this would be charged against Office Expense in the School Counseling Project but the item of Office Expense does not have sufficient funds left in the item to pay for this expense. Money has been saved, however, in the Secretarial salary and it is desired to transfer $120 from this item to Office Expense so that there will be no deficit in any of the items.

Mrs. Strickland moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion authorizing the transfer of $120 from the Secretary Account to Office Expenses in the School Counseling Fund. This motion was carried.

The need for an additional tape recorder to be used primarily in the Clearwater Office of the Juvenile Court was stressed by Judge Gardiner and by Dr. Williams. They pointed out that the secretary in the Clearwater Office was not kept busy because there was no transcribing machine for use there. In the opinion of the Judge, the purchase of such machine would improve record keeping and would prevent the employment of additional help in the St. Petersburg Office.

Judge Gardiner mentioned the fact also that Judge Alfred Marshall had used his own fan in the Clearwater Office and had removed it when he left. The need for a fan was stressed, but Judge Gardiner agreed to contact the Board of County Commissioners to see whether or not they would furnish a fan for the office in the Courthouse in Clearwater which is used by a number of county boards as well as the Juvenile Court.
Mrs. Strickland moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that the Director be authorized to purchase a tape recorder and a fan if that becomes necessary. The motion carried.

Dr. Williams explained the need for a temporary and part-time employee to investigate Day Nursery and Foster Home references in conformity with the law making the Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board one of three responsible for investigating and licensing foster homes and day nurseries in the county. He explained that in the beginning there have been a number of applications for licensing and that these applications require investigation of references in order to determine the fitness of the applicants for supervising and caring for children. He stated that in the beginning it would require almost full time service of the employee for perhaps six weeks to two months and that it would require only part-time investigation of complaints and of new applicants.

Judge Gardiner moved and Mrs. Strickland seconded a motion that the Director be authorized to employ a temporary and part-time worker to inspect foster homes and day nurseries and to investigate them for licensing and in regard to complaints. The salary rate was fixed at $200 per month for time worked and mileage for automobile at 7½¢ per mile. Dr. Williams stated that a former employee of the Children's Service Bureau with experience in investigating foster homes had expressed a willingness to do this temporary and part-time service and that he had engaged her on a tentative basis, pending approval by the Board. Her employment was approved.

The Director, Dr. Williams, reported on the Children in foster home care with the Child Welfare Unit and the Children's Service Bureau. He reported that the Child Welfare Unit during August cared for a total of 38 children for a total of 1,139 days and that the Children's Service Bureau during August cared for 8 children for a total of 188 days. Dr. Williams also reported that over $500 had been received from the Veterans' Administration for past care of two children and that payments would be made in the future for the care of these children.

Dr. Williams reported that the General children had been moved from the Child Welfare Unit for the Children's Service Bureau for adoption placement and that the cost of care would be terminated with their placement in an adoption family.

Dr. Williams gave further details concerning a Mongolian defective who had been brought to the attention of the Board at a previous meeting and indicated the need for expansion of State services to care for such children at an early age to prevent the destructive influence in a home where there are other small children. The Board discussed this matter and it was agreed that efforts would be made to secure funds on a private basis to care for this child in a foster home for the first year. The parents had stated that they would attempt to provide for its care in foster homes after that time.

Judge Gardiner described the efforts he has been making to require parents to pay for their children and to relieve the public of the tax burden which they support entails.

The Board looked over the chart showing the number of delinquent children coming before the Court during August and found that this is lower than in previous years. The number appearing as dependent is not as low as last year but lower than the year before that.
Discussion of the Activities for July was postponed until the next meeting.

Dr. Williams reported on the Blue Ridge Institute for Social Work Executives and told of the interest and the efforts being made to fully inform the public of the social welfare needs and activities.

Dr. Williams described the recent criticism of foster homes because they were located in single family residential areas and stated that the city legal department and the Planning Board had decided that no restrictions could be placed on the location of foster homes so as to distinguish them from the other single family residence units.

The next meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board was set for September 27 at 9:30 a.m. in the courthouse in Clearwater.

The meeting adjourned.

Nancy Meador