12-11-1952

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1952 : 12 : 11 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting of December 11, 1952
Held in Clearwater

Present were Mrs. Strickland, Chairman; Mrs. Holland, Secretary Pro Tem; Mrs. Jackson; Judge Gardiner; Dr. Williams, Director.

Minutes of the meeting of November 13 were read and approved. It was reported that the boys discussed at that meeting are now in the training school.

Mrs. Jackson, chairman of a committee to investigate obscene literature, reported on the congressional investigation of objectionable literature in magazines and books. She and other members of the Board reported the results of their investigations of local newsstands.

Motion:

Obscene Literature

Mrs. Holland moved, and Mrs. Jackson seconded a motion that the Juvenile Welfare Board go on record as opposing the circulation of obscene literature in the County, and that the Board write to the PTAs, church groups, and civic clubs in the County to solicit their aid in discouraging the printing and sale of such literature in the County, in the State, and in the nation. The motion carried.

Motion:

Expenditures

Mrs. Jackson moved that expenditures represented by checks No. 2899 to 2916 in the General Operating Account, and checks No. 335 to 337 in the In-School Counseling Account be approved for payment. Judge Gardiner seconded the motion which carried.

Also approved 2917 - 2937 and In-School Counseling Checks 338 - 343.

There was discussion of the financial statements for October and November, which indicated that the Board is keeping within its budget on all items of expenditures.

The Board requested the Director to send an early recovery card to Mr. Parry and to Judge John Bird.

Dr. Williams reported the need for additional casework for In-School Counseling Service, and that the Junior League, which furnishes the funds for additional services in this project, is considering the approval of an additional worker for the remainder of the school year. He stated that this will not eliminate the psychological services planned for the remainder of the year.

Motion:

Caseworker for In-School Counseling

Mrs. Jackson moved that the Board go on record approving the employment of the additional caseworker for In-School Counseling. Judge Gardiner commended the In-School Counseling Service and seconded the motion, which carried.

Dr. Williams reported on the number of children in foster homes, seven for the Children's Service Bureau, and 45 for the Child Welfare Unit.

Dr. Williams reported on the Johnson children who had earlier been under foster care, and then returned to the mother with the exception of the oldest boy. He stated that the oldest boy had had polio and had been in the Crippled Children's Hospital for a period of time, but was now back in a foster home. The oldest girl
has been running away from home and staying away all night. He read a report from the Children's Service Bureau in which recommendation was made that the child be carried in foster care and an attempt be made to help her overcome her problems. Dr. Williams recommended that the request of the Children's Service Bureau, which was approved by Judge Gardiner, be approved by the Board, and that foster home funds be made available for the care of the child.

Motion: Mrs. Holland moved and Mrs. Jackson seconded a motion that the Children's Service Bureau carry two older Johnson children in foster care. The motion carried.

Dr. Williams read a letter from a child worked with by Mrs. Dame in the In-School Counseling program, expressing appreciation for the help she had received and reporting on her successful adjustment in school.

The Director reported on a girl who has been in foster care for about a year with the Children's Service Bureau. This girl has now reached her 18th birthday but does not complete her high school course until the end of this school year. She is planning to take up nursing as soon as she graduates.

Motion: Mrs. Jackson moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that the Juvenile Welfare Board continue to help Lois to whatever extent is necessary until July 1. Motion carried. Judge Gardiner is to work toward getting some support from the father during this period.

A letter of resignation from Leonard Summers, effective January 31, 1953, was read. The Board expressed its deep regret over the prospect of losing Mr. Summers' services and also its commendation of the splendid service he has given.

Motion: Judge Gardiner moved and Mrs. Jackson seconded a motion that Mr. Summers' resignation be accepted with regret and that Leonard be given a service award. Motion carried.

A letter from Mrs. George W. Bartlett enclosing a copy of a letter of resignation to Governor Fuller Warren was read. The Board expressed its concern and regret over this resignation.

Motion: Judge Gardiner moved and Mrs. Jackson seconded the motion that the Board express its deep regrets at Mrs. Bartlett's resignation, that she be given a service award in recognition of her outstanding service on the Board, and that some gift in silver which can be engraved with appropriate sentiment of appreciation be selected and given to Mrs. Bartlett. Motion carried. Mrs. Holland was asked to make a selection of the memento.

Motion: After discussion, Judge Gardiner moved that Mrs. Ed Harris be recommended to Governor Warren to fill the unexpired term of Mrs. George Bartlett. Mrs. Jackson seconded the motion which carried unanimously.

The Director reported on the discussions that have been carried on regarding increasing the foster home boarding rates for children with the agencies supervising foster care. The increasing difficulty of getting and holding foster homes was cited as a reason for increasing the rates. These difficulties have
been increased by the rising cost of living over the past few years.

Motion: Judge Gardiner moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that the board rates for temporary detention homes used by the Court be increased not to exceed $15 a week and that other boarding home rates be increased on a sliding scale not to exceed $15 per week. The motion carried.

The next regular meeting date of the Board falls on the fourth Thursday, December 25. The date of the next meeting was therefore postponed until the second Thursday in January: January 8, in Clearwater.

Mrs. H. W. Holland
Secretary Pro Tem