Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1956 : 04 : 19 : 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/89
Meeting of April 19, 1956
 Held in Clearwater

Present: Judge Charles O. Parks, who acted as Chairman in the absence of
Mrs. Elizabeth Skinner Jackson; Mrs. H.W. Holland, Secretary, pro tem;
Mr. Floyd T. Christian; and Mr. Charles R. Fischer; also present, the
Director, Dr. Herbert D. Williams and Mrs. Wildred Mount, Supervisor of the
Child Welfare Unit of the State Department of Public Welfare.

There being no corrections or amendments, the minutes of the March 21 meeting of the
Juvenile Welfare Board and the March 21 meeting of the Children's Committee of Pinellas
County were approved as submitted to the membership by mail.

Motion: Mr. Christian moved and Mr. Fischer seconded a motion that expen-
ditures as covered by checks #4357 through #4395 in the General
Operating Account and checks #37 through #41 in the Trustee
Account be approved for payment. These expenditures and checks
are dated March 30 and April 15, 1956. The motion carried.

The financial reports for March and for the first six months of the fiscal year were
discussed.

A report of children in foster care during March was submitted and discussed.

Mrs. Mount of the Child Welfare Unit of the State Department of Public Welfare sub-
mitted a report covering the first six months of the fiscal year and described in
some detail the sources of the cases requiring foster care, kinds of problems in-
volved and the dispositions being made with reference to some of these cases. She re-
ported that the Child Welfare Unit had worked with 111 different children in the
first six months of the year and that 90 of these were cared for under Juvenile
Welfare Board funds. Fifty-one of them were short-time care cases for which care was
provided from State funds.

She stated that 96 children were in foster care at the present time, 36 of them were
placed in the past year, 47 of them between one and five years, and 13 have been in
foster care for a period of over 5 years. There were 53 other children in their own
homes or with relatives, or in special situations with whom the Child Welfare Unit
was working.

Mrs. Mount stated that referrals came from the other agencies, from parents, and from
the Juvenile Court. Of the children in care at the present time, 66 of them came
from the Juvenile Court.

| Child, Parent or Relative | 28 |
| Juvenile Court | 66 |
| Other Agencies in this locality | 38 |
| Agencies not in this locality | 27 |

The current reasons for placement of these children were: 4 because of death of
mother; 11, physical illness of parents; 3, mental illness of parents; 36, the largest
group, emotional problems of parents, including mental illness; 26 of them had parents
who were alcoholic and immature, unstable, unable to take care of the children; 21
were brought to the attention of the Child Welfare Unit because of abuse, neglect, and
abandonment.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Problem</th>
<th>Children</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Death of mother</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physical illness of parent</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental illness of parent</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emotional problems of parents</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Imprisonment of parent</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alcoholic parents</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Abuse, neglect, or abandonment of children</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Physically or mentally handicapped</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Behavior problems</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Runaway</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Social Studies or supervision</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

She described one child who is not doing very well, having had a very serious problem before and who now needs very badly dental work involving her front teeth.

**Motion:**
Nancy Noble

Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion, which carried that the Board approve the reimbursement of the Child Welfare Unit for expenditures in connection with the required dental work for Nancy Noble, the girl in question.

**Motion:**
Investment of surplus funds

Mr. Christian moved and Mr. Fischer seconded a motion, which carried, that the Director check to see if any surplus funds could be profitably invested for short time notes or investments and a report brought to the Board on his findings.

**Motion:**
Attendance at Florida Conference of Social Welfare

Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion, which carried, that approval be given for the attendance of Dr. Williams and Dr. Finck at the Florida Conference of Social Welfare with expenses paid by the Juvenile Welfare Board.

A six months report on marriage and family counseling and a six months report on financial aspects of homemaker service were submitted to the Board.

Dr. Williams gave a report on Diana Chandler and the Ryan children for whom the Children's Service Bureau is now providing service. He indicated that the expenditure of funds for Diana has stopped as of April 1, when she got married, but she will continue in and finish high school this June.

The Ryan children were reported as needing a continuation of foster home care and the Board was asked to approve the foster care of the Ryan children for the period required to meet their needs.

A report on meetings in April and May in which the Board might be interested was given by the Director.

Mrs. Mount requested that the Child Welfare Unit be authorized to give a token of recognition to the 53 foster mothers who are caring for 96 children in foster homes in the county. The Director pointed out that the Juvenile Welfare Board has in its Trustee funds with no required allocation, money given to the Board to meet special needs which the Board may find and which cannot be met through tax funds.
Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Holland second a motion that the Juvenile Welfare Board approve the expenditure of $50 from this special fund for Mother’s Day corsages to foster mothers who are rendering such an unselfish and valuable service to the children of the county. The motion carried.

After some discussion, it was decided that the third Thursday in May seemed to be as satisfactory a day for meeting as could be found and it was agreed to hold the meeting at that time.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned.

Mailande W. Holland
Secretary pro tem