

6-24-1954

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1954 : 06 : 24 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting of June 24, 1954

Held in Clearwater

The regular meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board was held in Clearwater on June 24, 1954.

Present: Chairman, Mrs. Baya Harrison; Secretary, Commissioner Sidney S. Parry; Mrs. H. W. Holland; Mrs. John Strickland; and the Director, Dr. Herbert D. Williams.

The Minutes of the June 10, 1954 Meeting were approved as submitted by mail to the members.

Motion: Mrs. Holland moved and Mrs. Strickland seconded a motion that Expenditures as listed in checks #3586 up to and including #3602, with the exception of checks #3594 and #3595 which were voided, be approved for payment. The motion carried.

The Director presented reports from the Children's Service Bureau and the Child Welfare Unit of District #4 Welfare Board on the status of Juvenile Court collections for children in foster care. These statements showed that court orders for the support of the children, with payments to be made through the Juvenile Court, were in arrears to the extent of \$5,955.03. The children for whom court orders for support were on record, with the present status of payments for them, were reviewed.

Motion: Mrs. Strickland moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that Letter to Juvenile the Director send a letter to the Judge calling his attention Court re payments to this situation, and requesting his cooperation in reducing for children in the amount outstanding and uncollected. This motion carried. foster care

A letter from the Children's Service Bureau, relative to a negro child's adoption home placement, was read.

The Director reported on the case of "Baby Girl Davis," who required 68 days of hospitalization following her birth, and who was placed directly in a foster home at the end of the 68 days. The reason for the long hospitalization period was that the child was premature. On January 28, 1954, the Board approved a request from the Children's Service Bureau for support of the child for a three-months period, and suggested that a request for extension be made by the Children's Service Bureau if the need exceeded the three months. On February 19, 1954, the Children's Service Bureau presented a hospital bill from the Mercy Hospital for \$322 for the care of the child during the 68 days following its birth. The Juvenile Welfare Board expressed the opinion that this was a proper charge against the hospital services of the city and requested the Children's Service Bureau to refer the matter back to the city hospital concerned. Mr. Wilson reported that the city authorities said it would be against their policy to pay or reduce the cost of hospital service at Mercy Hospital even for an indigent child. After some discussion,

Motion: Mr. Parry moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that the Letter to Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board be instructed to write Mr. Hinds, Director of the Division of Social Service, to request a clarification of this report, and to learn whether a difference in policy exists in regard to Mercy Hospital and Mound Park Hospital, with reference to care of the indigent. The motion carried.

Motion: Mrs. Holland moved and Mr. Parry seconded a motion that the
Baby Girl Juvenile Welfare Board pay board for "Baby Girl Davis" at the
Davis regular board rate unless the city can be persuaded to meet
the cost of the hospital care. The motion carried.

The Director stated that he had been requested to report on the Washington conference findings to the joint meeting of all workshops at the Florida State University at Tallahassee, following the conference.

An eight months report on the Homemaker Service, prepared by Mrs. Terrill, was read and discussed.

A statistical report on the first seven months of the Juvenile Court, the number of complaints received by the Police Department, the number of children involved, the number referred to the Juvenile Court, and the number reported as received by the Juvenile Court, was submitted to the Board. Also, a statistical report by the Florida State Department of Public Welfare, on Broward, Orange, Pinellas, and Polk County Juvenile Courts, was presented and discussed.

Activities reports for May 1954 from the Director, Child Welfare Unit, Children's Service Bureau, and the Child Guidance Clinic were reviewed.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned until July 8, 1954.



Sidney S. Parry
Secretary

LETTER TO JUDGE GARDINER, PINELLAS COUNTY JUVENILE COURT

Judge William G. Gardiner
219 County Building
St. Petersburg, Florida

Dear Judge Gardiner:

At the Board meeting on June 24, the Board requested that we call your attention to the fact that, according to records of the Children's Service Bureau and the Child Welfare Unit, \$5,955.03, which the parents of the children were ordered by the court to pay, has not been received by these agencies for the support of the children.

We are attaching herewith, a list of the children from the Child Welfare Unit and the Children's Service Bureau, with the date of the court order, amount of payment ordered, the amount received from the court, and the amount still due from the court, in compliance with the order of the court to the families concerned.

In view of the fact that demand on the Juvenile Welfare Board "Foster Care" funds has increased greatly, the Board hopes that the court can collect some of these funds now past due, and help to avoid a deficit for this fiscal year in the Board's "Foster Care" allocation.

Appreciating your cooperation, we are

Sincerely yours,

JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD

By

Herbert D. Williams
Director

LETTER TO CLARENCE S HINDS, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF SOCIAL SERVICE, CITY OF ST. PETERSBURG

Mr. Clarence S. Hinds, Director
Division of Social Service, City of St. Petersburg
440 Second Avenue, North
St. Petersburg, Florida

Dear Mr. Hinds:

The Juvenile Welfare Board has had presented to it, by the Children's Service Bureau, a bill from the Mercy Hospital for \$322 for the care of Baby Girl Davis, a dependent child. This bill was returned to the Children's Service Bureau, with the expressed feeling of the Board that this item more properly belonged within the Medical and Hospital Services of the city, a tax supported body.

The Children's Service Bureau reports that efforts to secure reduction or payment of this bill by the city were unsuccessful. The Board was under the impression that such aid was granted to patients at Mound Park Hospital, and they requested that we write you for a clarification in regard to this, and a statement of the city's policy in regard to care of indigent patients in the two hospitals. Is there a difference? If so, What is it?

The Board would like to understand what the situation is, and the rules and policies in regard to handling the hospital and medical care of children with indigent parents or without parents.

Appreciating your cooperation, and with kindest personal regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Herbert D. Williams
Director