Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1957: 04: 18: Minutes

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Meeting of April 18, 1957
Held in Clearwater

PRESENT: Mrs. H. W. Holland, Chairman; Mrs. John Strickland, Secretary; Mrs. Baya Harrison; Mr. Floyd T. Christian; Reverend Robert E. Coleman, Jr.; Also present, Dr. Herbert D. Williams, the Director.

Because of Mrs. Holland's laryngitis, Mr. Christian acted as chairman of the meeting.

Motion: Minutes
Mrs. Harrison moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion, which carried, that the minutes be approved as mailed.

Motion: Expenditures
Mrs. Holland moved and Reverend Coleman seconded a motion that the expenditures as listed for April 15, 1957 on checks #4877 through #4903 in the General Operating Account and check #56 in the Trustee Account be approved for payment. The motion carried.

The financial reports for March and preceding months were reviewed and explained by Dr. Williams, and received by the Board.

A report on children in foster care for March was reviewed by Dr. Williams, who explained that there had been an increase in payments by parents and relatives for the support of children, which had reduced the cost to the Juvenile Welfare Board and made it possible for it to operate within its budget. This report showed that 89 children had been in foster care for a total of 2,413 days during the month at a total cost of $5,026.09. Collections by the agencies and the court reached the total of $1,210.73, which reduced the cost per child from $56.17 to $42.86 for the month. The Board accepted the report.

A request from the Child Welfare Unit for reimbursement to foster parents for damage to property by a retarded foster child, in the amount of $30.40, resulted in the following action by the Board:

Motion: Reimbursement to foster parents
Mrs. Harrison moved and Reverend Coleman seconded a motion that the foster parents be reimbursed for this expense. The motion carried.

A request from the Child Welfare Unit for help in support of the Grimes children was explained in a letter read by the Director, who recommended that the Grimes children remain temporarily with relatives and that the relatives receive support at regular rates from the Juvenile Welfare Board until further arrangements are made.

Motion: Support of Grimes children
Reverend moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion, which carried, that the Juvenile Welfare Board begin support of the children, with more investigation of possible parental responsibility on the part of the father to be made and with the findings of this investigation to be reported to the Board.

A six-months report on marriage and family counseling showed that there had been an increase in the number of children, the number of families, the number of consultations requiring this service over the previous year. The report was accepted by the Board.

A six-months report on homemaker service showed that there had been an increase in the requirements for this service and that there had also been an increase in reimbursements for the service. The report was ordered received by the Board.
A request for approval for Dr. Finck and Mrs. Dame to attend the state meeting of the Florida Conference of Social Welfare to be held in Orlando on May 8-10, 1957 was acted upon by the Board as follows:

Motion: Dr. Finck and Mrs. Dame to attend conference

Reverend Coleman moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that permission to attend, with expenses paid, be granted. The motion carried.

Motion: Mrs. Terrill to attend conference

Mrs. Harrison moved and Reverend Coleman seconded a motion that approval be given for Mrs. Terrill to attend the annual conference of the Southern Association on Children Under Six to be held in Berea, Kentucky, on April 30 to May 2, 1957. The motion carried.

The Board discussed in some detail the proposed budget for 1957-1958. After consideration of the same,

Motion: Budget for 1957-1958

Reverend Coleman moved and Mrs. Harrison seconded a motion that the budget be approved as submitted to the Board. The motion carried.

A letter from the Child Guidance Clinic in regard to the care of children needing psychiatric treatment beyond the limits of the clinic was read by Mr. Christian and it was pointed out that the Board has no facilities for the care of such children, that the state mental health division of the State Department of Public Health and the mental health institutions are planning for the establishment of a unit for the care of severely disturbed children at the new mental hospital being completed in the southeastern part of the state. Pending its completion, there seemed to be little that could be done on a local basis for this very expensive and very severe problem requiring psychiatric, psychological, and social work skills which are not available in sufficient quantity for carrying out such a program in Pinellas County. The matter was left with the Director to use whatever methods could be developed that might be helpful in meeting this problem.

A report from the Community Welfare Council regarding a meeting to be held on May 2, 1957 at the Christ Methodist Church was read and it was agreed that the voting delegates from the Juvenile Welfare Board would be Mr. Christian and Dr. Williams.

Activities reports from the Juvenile Welfare Board for March and the Child Guidance Clinic for February and March were reviewed and accepted.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned until the third Thursday in May, May 16, when the Board will meet in the Board Room in the School Administration Building at 9:30 in the morning.

Kathleen E. Strickland
Secretary