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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1952 : 03 : 27 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Minutes of March 27, 1952

Present were Mrs. Bartlett, Chairman, Mrs. Holland, Secretary Pro Tem, Mr. Christian, Mr. Parry, and Judge Gardiner. Also present were Dr. Williams, Director, and the following members of the Junior League Project Committee: Mrs. Thurston, Chairman, Mrs. Bowman, Vice-Chairman, and Mrs. McLeod, last year's Vice-Chairman.

Minutes of the March 13th meeting were approved as submitted to the membership by mail.

Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that expenditures as covered by Checks No. 2558 - 2572 inclusive in the General Operating Fund and Checks in the School Counseling Fund 280 - 284 and Check No. 8 in the Trustee Fund be approved for payment. This motion was passed.

A letter from the Tax Collector regarding overpayment of $19,790.80 and requesting repayment of this amount to the Tax Collector because of the $75,000 ceiling limit which the Tax Collector can give to the Juvenile Welfare Board was read. After some discussion Mr. Christian moved and Mr. Parry seconded a motion that this overpayment be returned to the Tax Collector and that a check for $19,790.80 be drawn to him for this purpose. This motion was passed.

The Board and the Project Committee members of the Junior League of St. Petersburg entered into a discussion regarding the continuance and expansion of the In-School Counseling Service, which has been in operation as a demonstration project for the past two years, and which has been financed by the Juvenile Welfare Board, the Junior League, and the Board of Education. There was general agreement that the project should be continued and that an additional unit should be started in September at the beginning of the school year. Mr. Christian pointed out that it would be possible for the Board of Education to consider this a special unit under the state plan and receive reimbursement for the salaries of personnel in such a unit. According to him it would be possible to take over the Psychologist and perhaps the two part-time secretaries which would be needed in the project and in the additional project.

The amount needed to finance the additional unit and continue the present unit through June of 1953 was discussed. There was also some discussion as to the advisability of utilizing the Psychological Counseling Services being established in St. Petersburg on a fee basis in lieu of employing another full-time psychologist at least until some determination was made as to the need for additional psychological services. The present psychologist could give all of the intelligence and educational achievement tests and this would limit the amount of testing necessary for children whose behavior problems were a bit more acute. These could then be studied with projective tests, and special treatment in overcoming reading handicaps and other problems of that nature could be given at the Psychological Counseling offices. The more severe problems needing more intensive psychotherapy could be referred to the Child Guidance Clinic for that type of treatment.

The Director was asked to determine how much additional funds would be needed to carry out these two unit plans up to the end of June 1953. He was to inform the Superintendent of Public Instruction and the Junior League of the amount necessary.

The Director explained that the failure of the Community Chest of St. Petersburg to raise its quota had placed the Children's Service Bureau in the position of curtailing expenses. The Director of the Children's Service Bureau had suggested
that a plan be worked out whereby Mrs. Irwin, the Case Supervisor, now giving some time to the School Counseling Service could give an additional day of time and be paid for the two days during the period April 1 through June 30. This would amount to $113.33 a month. This would also make it unnecessary for the Juvenile Welfare Board to employ an additional part-time worker to fill the gap between what Mrs. Dame is now able to do while taking graduate work and what is needed in the way of service. Mr. Christian moved and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion that the Juvenile Welfare Board employ Mrs. Irwin on a Part-Time basis of two days a week at a salary of $113.33 a month for the three months period.

The Director reported that Dr. Voorhis wishes to attend the Florida Educational Association to study other guidance and counseling programs which may be reported on at this meeting. The proposed plan to take her into the school system makes it important for her to attend. Judge Gardiner moved and Mr. Christian seconded a motion that Dr. Voorhis be authorized to attend the Florida Educational Association meeting in Miami with her expenses paid by the Juvenile Welfare Board out of its General Operating Travel Account.

Mr. Christian moved and Mr. Parry seconded a motion to authorize Dr. Williams and Dr. Voorhis to go to the Florida Psychological Meeting, with expenses paid, on April 24, 25, 26. The motion carried.

Other items on the agenda were postponed to a subsequent meeting.

The date of the next meeting was set for April 10 in Clearwater at 9:30 A.M.

Mrs. H. W. Holland
Secretary, Pro Tem