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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1949 : 05 : 26 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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MINUTES OF MAY 26, 1949

The Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board met May 26, 1949, at 9:30 A.M. in Clearwater with Mrs. Holland, Mrs. Bartlett, Mr. Belcher, Judge Marshall and Dr. Williams present.

The minutes of the meeting of May 12, were mailed to members of the Board before the meeting and were approved as the first order of business.

Motion: Bills
Mr. Belcher moved and Judge Marshall seconded that expenditures in the amount of $2,323.07 be approved for payment. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Letter of Appreciation
Judge Marshall moved and Mr. Belcher seconded a motion that a letter be written to the editor of St. Petersburg Times expressing the Board's appreciation for (1) the splendid editorial by Mr. Warren Pierce, (2) the understanding and cooperation of the Executive Editor, Mr. Tom Harris, and (3) the excellent interpretative news articles on the work of the Juvenile Welfare Board and of the agencies which it is helping to support; also, (4) the excellent interpretation of the program of the Florida Industrial School for Boys at Marianna by Mr. George W. Bartlett. The motion passed unanimously.

The Board also suggested that a letter be written to Mr. Pat Flanagan expressing its appreciation for his many services to the Board in a public relations capacity and wishing him a speedy recovery from his illness.

Judge Marshall reported on the trip to Marianna where he and Mr. Patrick interviewed each boy from Pinellas County, who is in residence at the training school. The Judge reported it was decided to assign each boy to a probation officer so that the probation officer could begin to make definite plans for the boy's return to the community.

He indicated that he and the probation officer plan to make at least two visits a year to assist in maintaining a closer relationship with the boys in the training school and to work out plans for their community placement. Frequent expressions of appreciation for the $1.00 per month spending money were received from the boys.

Dr. Williams reported on his trip to Tallahassee where he sat in with the School of Social Work Faculty and Field Work Supervisors in the discussion of standards for graduate students doing field work with
social agencies. He also reported on his conference with the head of the Department of Social Work, Dr. Moore, and Mrs. Bristol, regarding the initiation and development of in-service training courses in Pinellas County.

According to information received by the Board, the amendments to the Juvenile Welfare Board Act have passed the State Senate but not the House. It was agreed that efforts will be made to explore the reasons for this delay and attempt to insure passage of the Act. The dire consequences of the failure of the legislature to do so were pointed out.

Judge Marshall reported that upon receipt of information to the effect that the legislative delegation had approved increasing the Juvenile Court Judge’s salary by only $300 ($2,400 to $2,700) and had increased the mileage allowance from $600 to $900, he had notified them that such action would be detrimental to the dignity and status of the Court, and that he would prefer to see no changes made if the legislative delegation refused to accept the recommendations and requests of the Juvenile Welfare Board and the Board of County Commissioners regarding the Juvenile Court.

The Director reported on his discussions with the Y.M. and Y.W.C.A. executives in regard to developing specialized recreational programs for problem children discovered in the school survey. The executives of both agencies feel that trained and experienced personnel will be needed. They do not wish to assign this type of work to young and inexperienced staff. They will continue to look for qualified personnel to do the job. Both executives expressed their tremendous interest and desire to cooperate in this kind of a program.

In a discussion of the Budget for 1949-1950, it was agreed:
1. That this year’s experience would be used as a basis for the coming year’s budget.
2. Salary allocation would remain practically the same.
3. Travel allocation could be reduced judging by the first two months of experience with the new 7½ cent mileage instead of the flat sum formerly paid.
4. The budget for Juvenile Home Care could probably be reduced to $3,000.
5. Child Guidance Clinic allocation would need to remain the same because it is impossible at this time to know what congressional action will be taken regarding the Federal Mental Health appropriations.
6. It was indicated that Foster Home Budget allocation would probably be increased.

Final determination of the Budget will have to wait upon definite information of action taken by the legislature.

The meeting adjourned at noon till June 9, at 9:30 A.M.

Margarette Blocher Bartlett
Secretary