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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1948 : 12 : 09 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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The Juvenile Welfare Board met at 9:40 A.M. in Clearwater on December 9, 1948, with the following members present: Mrs. Holland, Chairman, Judge Marshall, Mr. Belcher and Mrs. Bartlett. Also meeting with the Board were Dr. Parr, Mrs. Ripper, Mrs. Saltzer and Miss Kennedy of the State Welfare Board, Mrs. Mani O'Mara, Dr. Williams and Mr. Rogero.

Mrs. Ripper gave her monthly report of the Child Welfare Unit and a review of services rendered since the establishment of the Unit. She also reported and cited cases to show three unmet needs in the county; namely, (1) family counseling, (2) group care for mentally defective children not capable of attending school, and (3) general relief and adequate A.D.C. grant. She also spoke of the need for more foster homes. In the discussion that followed, Judge Marshall asked that no child be kept in jail because of a misunderstanding of agencies, as had recently happened. Some concern was expressed over the number of former inmates of Faith Mission who had to be sent to training schools for delinquencies.

Mrs. O'Mara, who had interviewed teachers, civic leaders, ministers, parents, etc., to make a survey as to what they considered to be the greatest needs in the county, gave a detailed and most interesting report of her findings. She submitted a chart for future reference. One alarming point made was the need for law enforcement at the beaches regarding the sale of liquor to minors. Mr. Belcher suggested that Mr. McNullen, state's attorney, be asked to confer with the Board at its next meeting.

Final disposition of the Alex Zumberis case was made. Mr. Rogero recommended that because of conditions and a smaller child in the Zumberis home, and upon the recommendation of a doctor, that this Board continue to care for Alex in the Duvall Home, meantime to renew its efforts to get the child placed in the Farm Colony in Gainesville.

Motion: Mr. Belcher made a motion to this effect which Judge Marshall seconded. It was passed unanimously.

Mr. Rogero was asked to take up the subject of the reimbursement of the constable at Safety Harbor with Mr. Green.

The meeting adjourned for lunch at 1:30. It reconvened at 2:30 with the same members present.

The minutes of November 17 were read and approved.

Motion: Bills for $3632.63 were presented and were moved paid by Mr. Belcher, seconded by Judge Marshall. The motion carried unanimously.

The secretary presented a list of points taken from the minutes for the year to show any unfinished business yet to be decided upon; also to see if the Board was exploring all opportunities, and meeting its objectives.
Motion: Regular meeting
Judge Marshall moved and Mr. Belcher seconded that the regular meeting time for the Board be set for 9:30 A.M. in Clearwater on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month. It was carried unanimously.

Motion: Christmas money
Acting upon Dr. Williams' suggestion that Christmas money be sent to each child from Pinellas County in the Industrial Training Schools, Mr. Belcher moved that the Board send $2.00 to each of these children. Judge Marshall seconded and the motion was carried unanimously.

Motion: Spending money
Judge Marshall moved and Mr. Belcher seconded that the Board continue its policy of sending $1.00 per month spending money to each Pinellas County child in Training School, the need being first ascertained by the school superintendent. The motion passed unanimously.

The subject of having Dr. Williams conduct an in-service training course and of having planned staff meetings was discussed. Judge Marshall suggested opening the course to other agencies and interested parties and starting it in January, possibly in the evenings. Mrs. Bartlett was asked to contact the probation officers and to present this as a recommendation to them.

Dr. Williams was asked to write Hillsboro County Commissioners terminating the tentative agreement with them on the use of their detention homes as these homes had not been used and were no longer needed by this Board; and furthermore, to express the Board's appreciation for their cooperation.

Dr. Williams asked the Board to study his review of the Board's first year of operation and make any corrections or suggestions before it was put into its final form.

Judge Marshall was asked to ascertain if the banks had arranged the extra collateral suggested by Mr. Gentry.

The meeting adjourned till January 6, 1949 in Clearwater.

MARGARET BIBBIE BARTLETT
Secretary