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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1957 : 11 : 20 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting of November 20, 1957
Held in Clearwater

PRESENT: Mrs. H. W. Holland, Chairman; Mrs. John Strickland, Secretary; Mrs. Banya Harrison; Judge Charles O. Parks, Jr.; Reverend Robert E. Coleman, Jr.; also present Mrs. Priscilla Colby, Supervisor of the Child Welfare Unit and Dr. Herbert D. Williams, Director; also present, Mr. Joel D. Hunter, a member of the Pinellas County Children’s Committee.

The minutes of the Juvenile Welfare Board meeting held on October 16, 1957 were approved as submitted to the membership by mail.

Motion: Mrs. Harrison moved and Reverend Coleman seconded a motion which carried, approving expenditures for October 30 and November 15, 1957 as listed on checks #5194 through #5244 in the General Operating Account and check #61 in the Trustee Account.

The financial reports for October were discussed by the Director and accepted by the members of the Board.

The Director also discussed the report of children in foster care and made a comparison between October 1956 and October 1957, which showed a marked increase in the number of children under care and the need for careful limitation of the load in order not to exceed the budget. It was agreed that with the increased population, which has exceeded expectations, an increase in the funds needed for foster home care was to be expected.

Mrs. Priscilla Colby, Supervisor of the Child Welfare Unit of the State Department of Public Welfare gave a report on children in foster care, with statistics of the number and kind of children, the situations from which they came, the problems presented by their care, and the shortage of staff in the Child Welfare Unit. She also described the individual cases which gave a better understanding of the kinds of situations in which children find themselves and the opportunity the Juvenile Welfare Board and the Child Welfare Unit provide for such children to enable them to make more adequate and successful adjustments to life situations.

Mrs. Colby’s report was received with appreciation by the Juvenile Welfare Board.

The Chairman, Mrs. Holland, announced the election of officers for the coming year and

Motion: Mrs. Harrison moved that Reverend Coleman be elected as Chairman of the Board. Judge Parks seconded the motion. Mrs. Strickland moved that the nominations be closed and the election be made unanimous. This was seconded by Judge Parks and approved by the Board.

Motion: Judge Parks moved that Mrs. Strickland be elected to succeed herself as Secretary. This was seconded by Mrs. Harrison and there being no further nominations, the Board voted its approval of the nomination and the election of Mrs. Strickland as Secretary.

Judge Parks reviewed the Juvenile Court activities during the month of October, which showed a very gratifying lack of increase in the number requiring official court action and the absence of serious offenses committed by the juveniles. This report showed only 26 receiving official action in the Juvenile Court as delinquents. The total number of children handled by the court on unofficial and special basis was much larger than this but not excessive.
The activities reports were submitted to the membership for consideration but omitted from official action in order to present a Service Award to Mrs. Elizabeth Skinner Jackson after the meeting.

The members of the Board and the Director then went to Mrs. Jackson's home to present the Service Award to Mrs. Jackson in appreciation for her service to children in Pinellas County over many years.

The next meeting of the Board will be held on the third Wednesday in December.

Kathleen E. Strickland
Secretary