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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1968 : 12 : 05 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting in Clearwater

December 5, 1968

PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. Roy M. Speer, Secretary; Mrs. William C. M. Bissell; Mrs. H. W. Holland; Juvenile Court Judge Jack M. Page; County Commissioner Charles E. Rainey; Superintendent of Public instruction Dr. Thomas B. Southard. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director; and Miss Ruth E. Jefferson, Director of Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes.

The minutes of the November 7 meeting were approved as distributed by mail.

MOTION
Approval of Expenditures for November

Dr. Southard moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to approve the expenditures for November: Checks #3171 through #3219 dated November 27; checks #3220 through #3252 dated December 5th; and check #3253 dated December 31, 1968.

MOTION
Approval of Salaries for December

Mrs. Speer moved, and Dr. Southard seconded a motion which carried, to approve the salaries as budgeted for December, 1968 on the condition of completion of satisfactory service.

The Financial Statement for November 1968 was approved by the Board. Dr. Finck stated that to date only $21,734.43 had been received from the Tax Collector, and Dr. Southard confirmed that tax receipts by the School Board had also been slow.

MOTION
Approval of Purchase of Files

Mrs. Holland moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to approve the purchase of two, five-drawer files at $105.00 each less 15% and trade-in.

The report of children in foster care for the month of October, 1968, was reviewed by the Board. Dr. Finck stated that the Child Welfare Division was having a coffee for foster parents on December 18 between the hours of 10:00 and 12:00 A.M.

Dr. Finck reported on a consultation visit by Mr. Lincoln Daniels, Chief of the Community Services Branch, Division of Juvenile Delinquency Service, United States Children's Bureau, and Mr. Hillis R. Holman, Deputy Director for Community Services, State of Florida Division of Youth Services. Dr. Finck reported that Mr. Daniels and Mr. Holman met with Mr. Floyd Glisson to discuss the program at Camp E-How-Kee. As representatives of the School Administration, Deputy Superintendent Sakkis, Administrative Assistant Edson, and Assistant Superintendent Hoffman met with Mr. Daniels and Mr. Holman to discuss the role of the school in preventing drop-outs and delinquency. Later in the day Dr. Finck took Mr. Daniels and Mr. Holman to the Juvenile Detention Center where Judge Page and Judge Walker and their staff gave a tour of the premises and facilities.

Miss Ruth E. Jefferson, Director of the Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes spoke to the Board about the present operations of the License Board. She stated that as of September 30 there were 94 children's centers with a capacity of 4,988, and 307 family day care homes with licensed capacity of 1,086. Included in the figures for Children's Centers are the 11 Head Start centers with a licensed capacity of 510. These Head Start centers provide facilities only for children over three. Miss Jefferson talked about the need for family day care home care for economically deprived children, whose parents are unable to pay the going rates of $15.00 a week in private homes. She described a number of situations where overcrowded and inadequate facilities
were being provided in an attempt to care for children whose parents apparently were able to pay only 50¢ or $1.00 a day. She mentioned licensed facilities which took children over their capacity, and also unlicensed ones which existed in a kind of black market. She outlined Project Playpen which has been developed through the Youth Opportunity Center, the State Department of Public Welfare, the License Board, and other interested individuals and organizations and which represents a cooperative effort on the part of AFDC parents to provide care for children. She stated that the Board which operates Project Playpen has applied for a grant of $18,000 from the Pinellas Opportunity Council, and that this request has been forwarded to the regional headquarters in Atlanta for action.

Miss Jefferson reported that Miss Helen E. McDowell, Assistant Director of the License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes would be retiring after more than ten years of service on January 1st, 1969. She told the Board about Miss McDowell's faithful and dedicated service, and her invaluable help in the beginnings of licensing for children's centers and family day care homes in Pinellas County. She stated that under Miss McDowell's guidance and direction, the number of licensed family day care homes had increased from 84 in 1958 to 307 in 1968.

**MOTION**

**Letter to Miss Helen E. McDowell**

Mrs. Holland moved, and Mrs. Speers seconded a motion which carried, to direct Dr. Finck to write a letter to Miss Helen E. McDowell, Assistant Director of the Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes expressing the Board's thanks and gratitude for her outstanding service, and dedication to the welfare of children.

The Activities Reports for the month of November were reviewed by the Board. Dr. Finck directed the Board's attention to the publication of Pinellas Association for Retarded Children, "Quote", which contained an article describing the Juvenile Welfare Board's support of Peter Pan School for Retarded Children.

Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board will be held on Thursday, January 2, 1969 in the County Office Building, Clearwater, at 9:30 A.M.

Mrs. Roy M. Speer
Secretary