11-25-1947

Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1947 : 11 : 25 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 25, 1947

The Pinellas County Juvenile Welfare Board met November 25, 1947, at 8:00 P. M. at Mrs. Holland’s residence, St. Petersburg. All members of the board were present.

The minutes of the preceding meeting were read and approved.

A financial report from Mr. Rogero showed a total balance of $6,692.62 in the Board’s accounts (copy attached).

Bills presented to be paid were:

- Telephone - St. Petersburg office $15.16
- Clearwater........ 32.17
- Juvenile Home.... 7.86
- Turner Printing Co........ 12.00
- Perry Marsh Ins. Co........ 107.82
- Trip to Ocala........ 3.23

Total $178.24

**MOTION:** Judge White moved that these bills be paid. Miss Bills Phillips seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Belcher reported that the County Commissioners do not feel legally obligated to pay the bills of $209.51 contracted in June at the Juvenile Home as the County does not hold title to the property. The bills were tabled.

Judge Marshall explained that a long-term lease, with option to purchase, was being considered with Mr. and Mrs. Cowell.

Mrs. Dorothy Ripper, district director of the State Welfare Board, who had been invited to speak on the Child Welfare Unit, told of this unit’s set-up and functions. Mrs. Ripper felt that on the minimum $10,000.00 suggested by Mr. Crowe, this Board could probably take care of 16 long-term foster-home placement cases for one year. Salaries necessary to administer the unit would be $8,556.00 minimum for first year.

After discussion, Judge Marshall suggested the Board study, observe and experiment with long-term placement cases and set aside money for this plan.

**MOTION:** Judge Marshall moved that a fund of $500.00 be set up to take care of not over five children for a period of two months, placement to be through the Court. Mr. Fuguit seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** Judge Marshall moved and Judge White seconded that the Personnel Committee be instructed to look
for a probation case worker to recommend to the Board, also to suggest a salary range for this worker. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Fuguitt stated that by July he would have available a negro part-time case worker, employed by the Board of Public Instruction as attendance assistant, who would work harmoniously with the Welfare Board.

It was the concensus of opinion that a recreation co-ordinator employed jointly with the Board of Public Instruction would not be a practicable arrangement.

As a matter of comparison with salaries paid in this county, Judge Marshall informed the Board that salaries paid probation officers over the state ranged from $2,400.00 to $4,500.00 per year, the average being $3,000.00.

An application by Mr. Rogero for the position of director was read and discussed. Judge Marshall suggested that a member of the Personnel Committee be asked to come to the Board’s next meeting to consider this and other applications.

Judge Marshall moved that $25.00 be added to the petty cash fund. Mr. Belcher seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

The recommendations from the Court Committee concerning the Juvenile Home were considered and approved of, with the suggestion by Judge Marshall that the agreement in writing with Mrs. Cowell be made a month after the trial period started.

Mrs. Holland invited the Board members to attend the Community Welfare Council meeting to be held Dec. 11.

The Meeting was adjourned till 8:00 P. M. December 9th, at Mrs. Bartlett’s residence, St. Petersburg.

Marguerite Blocker Bartlett
Secretary
The Court Committee recommends the following as a better financial basis of operation of the Juvenile Home than the present two dollars per diem basis:

1. It recommends that the home be put on actual cost operation on a monthly basis for a trial period of six months, beginning December 1st, 1947.

2. It recommends that a monthly analysis of the accounts be made by the Court Committee.

3. It recommends that extra help be hired when needed, preferably in the neighborhood.

QUESTIONS:

a. How is extra help to be paid?

b. Out of the $150.00 salary to Mrs. Cowell or above that figure?

4. It definitely recommends that salary and funds for extra help be completely separated.

5. It recommends fifty to sixty dollars per week as adequate figures for average family of nine.

6. It recommends a fund to be set up of seventy five cents per week spending money for each child who has been in the Home a week or more.

7. It recommends that parents be required to pay part, or all, if possible.

8. It recommends that the time of stay be shortened, if possible.

9. It recommends that an agreement with Mrs. Cowell be made in writing and that it include all these details.

10. It recommends that the agreement be approved by Mr. Bogue before it is submitted to Mrs. Cowell.

NINA HARRIS

CHAIRMAN