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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1969: 03: 06: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting in Clearwater
March 6, 1969

PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. H. W. Holland, who acted as Secretary; Mrs. William C. M. Bissell; County Commissioner A. L. Anderson; Juvenile Court Judge Jack A. Page; and Superintendent of Public Instruction Thomas B. Southard. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director; Dr. Raymond L. Edwards, Assistant Director; Dr. Jerome Rosenblum, Acting Director, Child Guidance Clinic of Pinellas County, Inc.

MOTION Approval of Minutes of February 6 Meeting

Mrs. Holland moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried, to approve the minutes of the meeting of February 6, 1969.

Dr. Finck introduced Dr. Rosenblum, Acting Director of the Child Guidance Clinic, who spoke to the Board about the present situation at the Clinic. He stated that there were currently 207 active cases; 138 at the St. Petersburg office and 69 at the Clearwater office. He explained that the Clinic was moving in the direction of more emphasis on training and research and mental health education as well as the traditional aspects of service and treatment. This new emphasis also included in-service training with the staff, such as a two-day institute to be held at the Clinic during the week of March 10, 1969. Dr. Rosenblum said that the Clinic was hoping to expand its physical plan and to construct a day care center which would afford the opportunity for more extensive treatment of emotionally disturbed children. If the Clinic were to construct the day care center from its funds, this money would be considered as matching for future Federal grants for construction or staffing.

Judge Page presented an emergency situation in regard to a seriously disturbed girl, Helen M. Drohen, who is currently at the Detention Center. He said that the girl had been diagnosed as in emergency need of residential treatment. Dr. Rosenblum, who was present, stated that he had seen the girl on a number of occasions and as recently as last week and that he concurred in this decision to send her to a residential treatment center. He recommended that she be sent to Mrs. Card's School for Girls in Dania, Florida.

MOTION Residential Care for Helen M. Drohen

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to investigate the possibility of State aid for Helen M. Drohen at the South Florida State Hospital or elsewhere, and if this aid is not available, to authorize the payment of $300.00 a month for Helen M. Drohen at Mrs. Card's School for Girls in Dania, Florida. The motion included a request that a report on the progress of Helen M. Drohen be made to the Juvenile Welfare Board in six months.

Judge Page described progress that is being made by the Court toward the establishment of a group home for girls. He stated that there were two possible sets of personnel for this home and that the Court would shortly be making a decision in regard to its choice in the matter. There was considerable discussion about how to describe this group home and also the special foster home for girls. Judge Page said that he felt it would be best to avoid publicity about this pilot program until it had been established. Dr. Coleman mentioned that a similar school for girls in California was called "The Unfinished Symphony".

MOTION Approval of Expenditures for February

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to approve the expenditures for February: checks #3118 and #3119 dated February 6; checks #3120 through #3165 dated February 28; checks #3166 through #3194 dated March 6; and check #3195 dated March 31, 1969.
MOTION
Approval of Salaries for March

Commissioner Anderson moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried, to approve the salaries as budgeted for March on the condition of completion of satisfactory service.

The financial statement for the month of February was reviewed by the Board. Dr. Finck explained that more taxes had been received, and that it looked as if the receipts would now be adequate for the operation of the Juvenile Welfare Board until the certificates of deposit matured.

The Report of Children in Foster Care for the month of January, 1969, was received by the Board. Dr. Finck stated that the number of children and the number of days of care were remaining almost constant but there was a decrease in the cost per child because of the extra clothing and other costs in December for Christmas.

Dr. Finck presented to the Board the 21st Annual Report of the Juvenile Welfare Board covering the period of October 1, 1967 to September 30, 1968.

An article by Miss Ruth E. Jefferson, Director of the Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes on "Housing for Early Childhood Education" was presented to the Board. Dr. Coleman stated how very helpful Miss Jefferson had been in the recent expansion of his kindergarten program at the First Christian Church.

MOTION
Payment of Necessary Expenses for Mr. William E. Neet

Commissioner Anderson moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to approve the request for the payment of necessary expenses for Mr. Neet to attend the Southern Association on Children Under Six, Jacksonville, Florida, April 17, 1969.

MOTION
Approval of Necessary Expenses for Marriage and Family Counseling Staff

Commissioner Anderson moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to approve the payment of necessary expenses for the five members of the Marriage and Family Counseling Staff to attend the Institute of the National Association of Social Workers at Charleston, South Carolina, June 15 to 20, 1969.

The activities reports for the month of February, 1969, were presented to the Board.

There was discussion about the time and place of the April meeting and it was decided that the meeting would be held at the Pinellas County Juvenile Court Detention Center on April 10, 1969 at 9:30 A.M.

Mrs. H. W. Holland
Acting Secretary