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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1980 : 02 : 07 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Dr. Gus Sakkis, Vice Chairman; Mrs. Virginia H. Eckert, Secretary; Mrs. H.W. Holland; Judge Robert F. Michael; Judge Jack A. Page; and Commissioner Bruce Tyndall. Also present: Dr. Raymond L. Edwards, Executive Director; Mr. William M. Michaels, Deputy Director; Mrs. Mary L. Broadwater, Administrative Secretary; Mr. William M. Markman, Business Administrator; and Mr. Frank P. Glackin, Attorney at Law.

Dr. Coleman asked Judge Michael to open the meeting with prayer.

Dr. Coleman congratulated Dr. Sakkis, who had been recognized by Executive Educator magazine as one of the top 100 school executives in the United States and Canada.

Dr. Coleman welcomed Commissioner Bruce Tyndall, who was appointed to the Juvenile Welfare Board on January 1, 1980 by virtue of his office as Vice Chairman of the Pinellas County Board of County Commissioners.

Mr. Glackin updated the Board on legal matters.

MOTION Approval of Minutes
Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried to approve the minutes of January 3, 1980.

MOTION Approval of Endorsement
Dr. Sakkis moved, and Mrs. Eckert seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of staff to endorse the efforts of the Comprehensive Mental Health Services to expand services in the South Catchment Area.

MOTION Approval of JSP Request
Judge Page moved, and Dr. Sakkis seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of staff to allocate from contingency an amount of $2,250 to the Juvenile Services Program to continue the Diversion and Delinquency Prevention project for two months, February and March 1980.

MOTION Approval of AHS Request
Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Eckert seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of staff to approve the amended personnel budget for Alternative Human Services Runaway project as submitted on January 28, 1980, effective February 1, 1980.

MOTION Approval of Latchkey Request
Mrs. Eckert moved, and Judge Michael seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of staff to allocate from contingency an amount of up to $6,232.62 to Latchkey Services for School Age Children to be used as new match for Title XX day care funds, should they become available.

Mr. Carl E. Meisner, Assistant Director for Planning/Funding, requested permission from the Board to announce his intention to run for the Florida Legislature. After considerable discussion, the Board consensus was that a written formal opinion should be obtained from the Florida Commission on Ethics re the legality of his proposed candidacy for the Florida Legislature while serving as an employee of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

MOTION Approval to Develop Agreement
Dr. Sakkis moved, and Judge Michael seconded a motion which carried to instruct Dr. Edwards to develop an agreement between the Board and Mr. Meisner clarifying Mr. Meisner's position during his proposed candidacy and stipulating the periods of time during which he would be on unpaid leave status. This agreement is to be returned to the Board for approval.
Judge Page asked that staff give careful consideration to the request from Tampa Children's Home for funding, since the Home serves many Pinellas County children. Dr. Edwards could not recall the agency had ever submitted a request for funds in the past seven years.

Mr. William M. Michaels, Deputy Director, introduced Dr. C. Wilson "Andy" Anderson, newly hired as Project Coordinator of the Foster Care Family Impact Project, who briefly reviewed the project.

Mr. Michaels asked that the report on the Family Crisis Intervention Orientation Meeting be rescheduled since Mrs. Terreye Bradley could not attend the meeting.

Mr. Michaels called the Board's attention to the site visit report on the Juvenile Community Arbitration program, which is a component of the Citizen Dispute Settlement Program.

Mr. William M. Markman reported on the parking lot bids which had been received. He informed the Board that Mr. Douglas Carter, Carter and Associates, Engineers, recommended that the Board accept the low bid (W.L. Cobb Construction Company - $32,399) and return the bond which had been secured from the other bidder.

MOTION Approval to Accept Bid
Dr. Sakkis moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried to accept the bid of W.L. Cobb Construction Company, as recommended by Mr. Markman and Mr. Carter.

MOTION Approval of Educational Fund Requests
Mrs. Eckert moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried to approve the requests of Mr. Robert T. Glenn (two courses at the University of South Florida) and Mrs. Lynn Blackledge (one course at St. Petersburg Junior College) for reimbursement from the Educational Fund upon completion of these courses with a grade of C or better.

MOTION Approval of Changes in Personnel Practices Manual
Dr. Sakkis moved, and Mrs. Eckert seconded a motion which carried to approve the changes to the Personnel Practices Manual as presented by Mr. Markman. (Attached to minutes as addendum.)

Mr. Markman advised that a request had been made for direction from the Board Personnel Committee re treatment of Special Merit Raises, Promotions and Reclassifications. The Committee suggested and the Board concurred in following the same course as at present with the first two contingencies, but favored considering reclassifications at specified periods, possibly quarterly (rather than monthly). Discussion indicated the Board viewed the budget as a working document subject to modifications during the year as appropriate and/or necessary.

Mr. Markman also had asked the Board Personnel Committee for permission for staff to bring back the request to reclassify a position from Secretary II to Administrative Assistant which failed to carry at the last meeting.

Mr. Markman informed the Board that today was to be telephone switchover day at the Juvenile Welfare Board, with the system going from General Telephone Company to Southern Telephone Systems.

Mrs. Wanda Beck, Program Fiscal Monitor, reviewed the quarterly Program Budgetary Report with the Board.
Dr. Sakkis moved, and Mrs. Eckert seconded a motion which carried for the Juvenile Welfare Board to continue to support the position of the Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers and Family Day Care Homes re non-exemption of church day care centers.

Commissioner Tyndall voted against this motion because he lacked background information.

Mrs. Eckert moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of Dr. Edwards to grant a special merit increment to Mrs. Lee Duffey (to Grade 30 step 4 - $10,398.34), effective February 1, 1980.

Dr. Sakkis moved, and Commissioner Tyndall seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of Dr. Edwards to reclassify the position held by Mrs. Sue Walterick (to Grade 33 step 1 - $10,398.34), effective March 1, 1980.

Mrs. Eckert moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried to approve the recommendation of Dr. Edwards to reclassify the position held by Mrs. Carol Gunnels from Secretary II to Administrative Assistant (to Grade 36 step 3 - $13,117.10), effective January 1, 1980.

Dr. Edwards stated that he had visited Board meetings of 25 agencies in an effort to inform them of the Juvenile Welfare Board's referendum plans and to solicit their support.

A motion to discontinue consideration of a referendum died for lack of a second. The Board members recognized the significant voter resistance to tax increases such as this, but reiterated their conviction that it was the Board's responsibility to place it on the ballot in order to give the voters an opportunity to support increased services to children.

Dr. Sakkis moved, and Mrs. Eckert seconded a motion which carried to authorize Dr. Edwards to approach Representative Peter M. Dumbar to urge him not to file his bill this year. This bill is presently in preliminary draft form and provides for appointment of five of the members of the Juvenile Welfare Board by the Board of County Commissioners. In the light of the coming referendum and the unclear nature of the rationale prompting the drawing up of the bill, it is impossible to envision its impact upon the community.

The Board noted the Executive Director's activities report from July 1, 1979 through December 31, 1979.

The Conference room daily usage for the month of January was 56 in the downcounty office, 8 in the upcounty office.

Copies of the Services to Children Newsletter for January '80, Training Post (February '80), and an article relating the appointment of a third juvenile judge were attached to the Board members' material.

Mr. Floyd Egner, a reporter from The Clearwater Sun, attended the meeting.

Dr. Coleman declared the meeting adjourned.

The next meetings are: February 26 & 27, 1980 - Agency reviews (Board and staff) March 6, 1980 - Review program funding applications April 3, 1980 - Preliminary program funding recommendations

Virginia H. Eckert, Secretary