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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1983 : 02 : 10 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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JUVENILE WELFARE BOARD

Regular Meeting - February 10, 1983

PRESENT: Mrs. Mary Wyatt Allen, Chairman; Mrs. Mary Frances Byrkit, Vice Chairman; Dr. Calvin D. Harris, Secretary; Commissioner John Chesnut, Jr.; Mrs. Helen W. Herman; Judge Jack A. Page; Dr. Scott Rose; and Mrs. Jo Ann Welch. Also present: Dr. Gus Sakkis, Interim Director; Mrs. Mary Laura Broadwater, Executive Secretary; and Mr. Terry A. Smiljanich, Attorney at Law.

Mrs. Allen called the meeting to order.

MOTION

Minutes of Regular Meeting

Mr. Smiljanich updated the Board on the Edwards litigation.

Mr. Smiljanich explained the contract between the Board and Dr. Sakkis, Interim Director. Dr. Sakkis clarified points in the contract.

Commissioner Chesnut arrived during the above clarification.

MOTION

Approval for Chairman to Sign Contract

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Herman seconded a motion which carried for the Chairman to be empowered to sign the contract with Dr. Sakkis in behalf of the Board.

MOTION

Litigation Against Baker Personnel

Dr. Rose moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried unanimously for the Board to go forward with litigation against Baker Personnel on the basis of a breach of their contract with this Board and seek recovery of all monies paid to them and any other damages that the Board may be entitled to by law.

Mrs. Allen has asked Mr. Smiljanich to keep separate any of his charges in the area of the Baker Personnel litigation so that perhaps these could be recovered, also.
The Youth Services System Advisory Council was represented by Mrs. Elithia Stanfield, Coordinator, who introduced Ms. Jane Harper (Director of Client Services with Alternative Human Services), Ms. Lounell Brit (Program Specialist at Health and Rehabilitative Services Foster Care), and Mr. Hugh Forsyth (Executive Director of Young Women's Residence), who were at the meeting to answer any concerns Board might have about the Emancipation of Minors Act.

MOTION Emancipation of Minors Issue
Mrs. Welch moved, and Dr. Rose seconded a motion which carried unanimously to refer the question of emancipation of minors to staff to bring back as a possible legislative issue next year.

Dr. Harris expressed his feeling that if the Board will be looking for a new Executive Director next month, the Board should conduct the search itself, rather than hire a consultant to do it.

MOTION Search Committee
Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Welch seconded a motion which carried unanimously to ask Dr. Harris to chair the Search Committee and bring forth with staff's help at the next Board meeting, via the Board packets, information on a budget, a proposed calendar, and a list of individuals who would allow their names to be used in nomination for this committee.

Before the vote was taken on the above motion, it was clearly stated that the Search Committee would function only if in the future the Board moves to terminate Dr. Osanka.

Mrs. Allen announced that the Policy Committee would be meeting on the 24th of March at 7:30 p.m. with representatives of the three agencies involved in the area of autonomy and on the 7th of April at 7:30 p.m. with the Youth Services System Advisory Council for the six months review. This committee will meet to discuss Mr. Robert Bell's needs assessment methodology report as soon as staff feels it is ready. The Policy Committee is composed of Mrs. Allen, Mrs. Herman, Mrs. Welch, and Mrs. Byrkit, but all members are welcome to join the committee in any of these deliberations.

The Board welcomed two new staff persons, Ms. Cathie Bourne (Marriage and Family counselor) and Ms. Nancy Horn (referral clerk in the License Board).

The Board noted the personnel report for January 1983.

By general consent the Board asked Dr. Sakkis to review the minutes re: Board action on merit raises up to 7 percent, agenda item #6.A.1.

MOTION Combination of Positions
Dr. Harris moved, and Mrs. Herman seconded a motion which carried unanimously to combine the Fiscal and Business Administrator positions into the position of Acting Assistant Director of Administrative Services, said position to be held by Mr. Bill Hicinbothem with a 10% increase in salary (to $28,300 - pay grade 45). Effective date of this action is February 1, 1983.

MOTION Assistant Director for R&E
Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Herman seconded a motion which carried unanimously to establish a new position of Assistant Director for Research and Evaluation to be filled by Mr. William M. Michaels at his current salary, effective January 1, 1983. This new position replaces the position of Deputy Director in the Juvenile Welfare Board table of organization.

Mrs. Allen noted that a letter had been received from Mr. Bill Markman, former Juvenile Welfare Board Business Administrator, stating that he wished to appeal his termination by Dr. Osanka and requesting the Board's consideration of his reinstatement.
Mrs. Welch moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried to offer Mr. Markman the opportunity to appear before the Board at the regular meeting on March 10, 1983.

Mrs. Byrkit and Commissioner Chesnut opposed this motion.

Mr. Smiljanich left the meeting.

The Board noted the Training Unit monthly update of planned activities and the attached "Counseling Troubled Youth: an Adlerian Approach" conference evaluation summary.

The Board reviewed the current investment report, the January transfers, and the site audit reports.

Mrs. Welch moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried unanimously to endorse the concept of a Children's Services Division within Mental Health Services of South Pinellas, which operates under the direction of a Children's Services director.

Dr. Harris moved, and Mrs. Welch seconded a motion which carried to allocate up to $3,685 to Mental Health Services of South Pinellas from contingency and to allow this agency to use up to $17,904 of lapse funds to fund the cost of the salary and fringe for the position of Director of Children's Services, retroactive to February 1, 1983.

Mrs. Allen opposed this motion.

By general consent the Board agreed to postpone the Board requirement for request for proposals for new programs since the proposed needs assessment will not be completed in time for the Board to utilize it for the 1983-84 fiscal year.

Mrs. Herman moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried unanimously to reaffirm the Juvenile Welfare Board position in favor of Affirmative Action and refer this matter to staff to bring back recommendations for appropriate action by the Board in any specific areas.

During the discussion on the above motion, Dr. Harris stated that he would like to see an Affirmative Action statement on the Juvenile Welfare Board letterhead, and that he would like to have the Personnel Department bring to the Board a recruitment plan to improve percentages.

By general consent the Board agreed to hold the April monthly Board meeting on the 14th, rather than on the day originally scheduled. Mrs. Allen reminded the Board that regular workshops are no longer scheduled - workshops are scheduled as the need arises.

The Board noted the staff activities reports for January 1983.

Mr. Will Michaels, Assistant Director for Research and Evaluation, reported that, on behalf of the Board and Dr. Sakkis, he had presented the legislative measures recently adopted by the Board to the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation earlier this morning.

Mr. Michaels updated the Board on the Mental Health Residential Services Needs Assessment interim report.
The Board noted the media items.

Mrs. Byrkit, Chairman of the Computer Committee, led a discussion to get Board members' ideas on the question of a computer.

By general consent the Board referred to Dr. Sakkis that portion of the computer question dealing with having administration define exactly what its needs are.

The Computer Committee will address the policy decision of whether or not the Juvenile Welfare Board is interested in providing a direct service to funded agencies, which would be charged back to them. The Committee is to report back at the April 14 meeting.

Dr. Sakkis expressed his appreciation for the confidence the Board has displayed in having him as Interim Director and for the support which staff has provided to him. At the March meeting, Dr. Sakkis will propose some alternate dates to have a Board/Administration workshop to look at expectations of one another, roles, and developing a greater amount of teamwork together.

Mrs. Allen declared the meeting adjourned.

The next meetings will be: March 9, 1983, 7:30 p.m. - special meeting; March 10, 1983, 9:30 a.m. - regular meeting.

Calvin D. Harris, Ed.D., Secretary