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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1966 : 12 : 01 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting in Clearwater
December 1, 1966

PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. Charles S. Baker, Secretary; Mrs. H. W. Holland; Mrs. Roy Speer; Juvenile Court Judge William A. Patterson; and County Commissioner Robert L. Weatherly. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director; Judge-Elect Robert A. Halvorsen; Mrs. Barbara Thomas, Child Welfare Supervisor, State Department of Public Welfare; Mrs. Baya Harrison; and Mr. Wesley W. Jenkins, Executive Director, Family and Children's Service.

MOTION
Approval of Minutes
Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Judge Patterson seconded a motion which carried, to approve the minutes of the November 3rd meeting.

MOTION
Election of Secretary
Mrs. Holland nominated Mrs. Baker, Commissioner Weatherly made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Speer, to close the nominations, and the motion passed.

MOTION
Approval of Expenditures for November
Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Judge Patterson seconded a motion which carried, to approve the expenditures for November: Checks #1226, 1236, 1238, and 1243, and 1237, and #1243 through #1267 inclusive, as well as the bill for the day care of retarded children from Play Pard School amounting to $293.00.

MOTION
Approval of Salary Checks for December
Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Mrs. Speer seconded a motion which carried, to approve the salary checks for December on the condition of completion of satisfactory service.

The financial report and statement for the month of November 1966 was reviewed by the Board.

MOTION
Designation of Board Member to Sign Checks
Mrs. Holland moved, and Mrs. Speer seconded a motion which carried, designating Judge Robert A. Halvorsen to sign checks for the Board along with Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., after January 1, 1967.

The report of children in foster care for the month of October 1966 was reviewed by the Board.

MOTION
Payment from Trust Funds for Dental Expenses for Michael Coker
Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to pay $150.00 from Trust Funds for dental expenses for Michael Coker.

MOTION
Continuation of Foster Care for Willie Harvey
Judge Patterson moved, and Mrs. Speer seconded a motion which carried, to approve the continuation of foster care for Willie Harvey until such time as Vocational Rehabilitation Services have been completed.
Since Judge William A. Patterson will not be a member of the Board after December 31, 1966, Mrs. Holland moved, and Commissioner Weatherly seconded a motion to nominate Mrs. Speer. Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Judge Patterson seconded a motion which carried, to close the nomination.

Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., presented the Juvenile Welfare Service Award to Mrs. Virginia Harrison in recognition of her outstanding service to children during the past sixteen years when she served as a member of the Juvenile Welfare Board. Mrs. Harrison stated that she felt that she had learned a great deal while she was a member of the Board and would always welcome the opportunity to promote the Board's services.

Dr. Finck read the letter that had been received by members of the Board from the Child Care Committee and the Children's Inter-racial Committee. The letter requested that the Juvenile Welfare Board help the two committees in the joint employment of a social worker. Mrs. Harrison spoke about her observation of the need for professional social work services for the families and children served by the three day nurseries. Dr. Finck reported that he had explored the possibility of Federal day care funds with the State Department of Public Welfare and had been told that these funds were currently limited to research or the exploration of community needs. Dr. Finck also stated that he had discussed the possibility of the employment of a social worker with Suncoast Progress, Inc. for Office of Economic Opportunity funding and that he had also considered the matter with Mr. Curley, Director of Pinellas United Fund.

Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to refer the request from the Child Care Committee and the Children's Inter-racial Committee to Dr. Finck for further study and analysis.

Dr. Finck read a letter received by Commissioner Weatherly from Mr. Ralph E. Stevens, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee of the Speech and Hearing Clinic, asking for the payment of $578.00 for diagnostic and treatment services to children in foster care. Dr. Finck reported that one of the five children listed had been referred by the schools and two of the others had been referred through the Crippled Children's Commission. There was considerable discussion about whether a precedent would be established for financial requests from other specialized organizations if this were granted. Commissioner Weatherly moved that the Board adopt a policy to approve, in the future, payments on a case by case basis as presented. The motion died for lack of a second.

Commissioner Weatherly moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to defer action on the request from the Speech and Hearing Clinic.

Mrs. Holland moved, and Mrs. Speer seconded a motion which carried, to approve Dr. Finck's recommendation of a salary scale for the position of marriage counselor beginning at $7,000.00 and increasing by $250.00 merit raises to $12,000.00 over a period of twenty years with a maximum of eight years experience transferred from other agencies and a maximum starting salary of $9,000.00.
Mr. Wesley W. Jenkins, Executive Director of Family and Children's Service, reported on work of his agency with the children hard to place for adoption and pointed out that considering the expenses during the year that might have been incurred for foster care, the adoption placement of twelve children almost made the program self-supporting. Mr. Jenkins reported also on the follow-up that his agency had done from the Summer Head Start program and the tremendous unmet needs for medical care that had been uncovered. Mr. Jenkins also presented a case of two children now in foster care from Juvenile Welfare Board funds and explained the way in which he wished the Juvenile Welfare Board to assist in promoting their adoption by the foster parents. Mr. Jenkins will submit this case for further discussion by the Juvenile Welfare Board in January.

Dr. Finck called the attention of the Board members to the article in the November Redbook "The Pregnant Bride" which used material from the study made by the marriage counseling staff of the Juvenile Welfare Board and originally published in The American Journal of Orthopsychiatry.

Since there was no further discussion, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board will be Thursday, January 5th, in the County Office Building, Clearwater.

Mrs. Charles S. Baker  
Secretary