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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1961:01:12: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting in Clearwater
January 12, 1961

PRESENT: Reverend Mr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. Baya Harrison, Secretary; Mrs. Gus Sakkis; County Commissioner A. L. Anderson; Superintendent of Public Instruction Floyd T. Christian; and Juvenile Court Judge Charles O. Parks, Jr. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director.

The minutes of the December 1st meeting were approved as distributed.

Dr. Finck reported on his meeting with the Board of County Commissioners on December 20th, his appearance before the Legislative Delegation on January 7th, and his second appearance before the Board of County Commissioners on January 10th. Dr. Finck told the Board that the County Commissioners had requested that the Juvenile Welfare Board use their funds to meet the current crisis in foster and shelter care expenditures. The Board of County Commissioners expressed by motion their willingness to make up any deficit that was incurred by taking care of the foster home program by using County Welfare Department funds in the latter part of the year. This eventuality would occur only if the Legislative Delegation did not approve of the request to increase the Juvenile Welfare Board's millage from one-third to one-half. In both the discussions with the Board of County Commissioners the increase in millage was supported. Dr. Finck stated that the Legislative Delegation were unable at this point to give any firm commitment that they would be able to pass the required millage. After some discussion, the Board expressed the feeling that funds could not be spent which were allocated for the remainder of the year and that the risk involved could not be assumed by Juvenile Welfare Board members who were under bond and subject to state audit.

MOTION Expenditure of funds for Foster Care as requested of the Board of County Commissioners Mr. Christian moved, and Judge Parks seconded a motion which carried, that since the Juvenile Welfare Board has a formal monthly budget which is for the entire year, the Director be empowered to ask the County Commissioners to authorize the County Welfare Department to be responsible for any additional funds for foster care.

Along with the increase in the millage, the request of Judge Parks to the Legislative Delegation to be removed from the Juvenile Welfare Board was discussed. Mr. Christian suggested the Director contact Mr. Leonard Cooperman and ask him to suggest how an additional member might be appointed to the Juvenile Welfare Board.

MOTION Expenditures Mr. Christian moved, and Judge Parks seconded a motion which carried, to approve the checks as listed: check #7400 dated December 1; checks #7401 through #7441 dated December 15; checks #7442 through #7452 dated December 30, 1960.

The financial reports for the month of December were reviewed. Mr. Christian suggested that the surplus tax funds be invested in time deposits for which he said approximately 2 1/2 per cent interest was available.

The report of the children in foster care was discussed and reviewed in light of the current shortage of funds in this category.

Dr. Finck read a letter from the Brown Schools about the case of Tom Robbins for whom the Board is paying one-half of his expenses. The report stated that while Tom is making excellent educational progress, he is still a very sick boy and that an additional two years of residential treatment seems to be indicated.
Dr. Finck announced plans to set up a workshop on pastoral care for the ministers of the County. This workshop will be held at the Florida Presbyterian College on Tuesday, January 31, and will be led by Dr. David R. Mace.

**MOTION**
Approval of Expenses of Dr. Finck to attend Conference in Savannah

Mr. Christian moved, and Mrs. Harrison seconded a motion which carried, to pay the expenses of Dr. Finck at the Southern Regional meeting of the Child Welfare League of America, Savannah, April 27 to 29, 1961. Dr. Finck will preside at an institute to be held there on the responsibility of board members for interpreting child welfare services.

The draft of the Thirteenth Annual Report was reviewed by the members of the Board. Dr. Finck reported on suggestions that have been made by Mr. Pat Flanagan for improving the effectiveness of the report. Mr. Christian suggested that in subsequent years we try to have a brief report which would present data in the form of pictures and graphs to illustrate the work of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

Dr. Finck reported on the discussion with the Legislative Delegation about amendments to the Licensing Board Act. There was much discussion about the Juvenile Welfare Board’s financial responsibility for supporting this program.

**MOTION**
Continued support of the License Board

Mr. Christian moved, and Mrs. Sakkis seconded a motion which carried, that the Juvenile Welfare Board continue financial support of the Pinellas County License Board for Day Nurseries and Foster Boarding Homes. The Board’s thinking was that this valuable service should be continued in close cooperation with the other services to children which are the responsibility of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

The activities reports for the month of December were reviewed by the Board.

Since there was no further business the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Board will be Thursday, February 2nd, 1961 at 9:30.

Virginia D. Harrison
Secretary