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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1983: 01: 13: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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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. Frank Osanka, Executive Director; Mr. William M. Michaels; Mr. Carl E. Meisner, Assistant Director for Planning and Funding; Mrs. Mary Laura Broadwater, Executive Secretary; and Mr. Terry A. Smiljanich, Attorney at Law.

Mrs. Allen called the meeting to order and asked Mrs. Mailande Weems Barton, former Board member and founding chairman, to give the morning prayer.

Mrs. Allen then asked Mrs. Barton to come forward to accept a plaque depicting the sculpture in the Juvenile Welfare Board lobby and acknowledging Mrs. Barton's years of dedicated service to the Board.

Dr. Rose arrived during presentation of the plaque.

MOTION Approval of Minutes Mrs. Herman moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried to approve the minutes of the work session of November 10, 1982, the work session of December 1, 1982, and the regular meeting of December 9, 1982.

MOTION RFP's for Insurance Judge Page moved, and Dr. Harris seconded a motion which carried to issue requests for proposal on the type of insurance needed by the Board members and to involve the County in whatever position is appropriate in this area.

By general consent of the Board members, the Personnel Policy Manual of the Juvenile Welfare Board is to be updated by including the Public Relations Specialist in the list of exempt status employees, by deleting the position of Planning and Funding Consultant, and by adding the position of Assistant Director for Planning and Funding.

Mr. Smiljanich reported that, in his opinion, it is proper for the Juvenile Welfare Board to receive specific funds and property bequeathed to it by citizens, and any such bequest would qualify as charitable contributions under the Internal Revenue Code.

The Youth Services System Advisory Council deferred their monthly five-minute presentation until the February meeting.

The Board noted the personnel report for December 1982, and welcomed a new staff person in the Training Unit, Ms. Ann Huss, Secretary I.

Dr. Osanka announced that, on December 30, 1982, he had accepted the undated resignation of Mr. William Markman, Business Administrator, which acceptance of undated resignations of exempt personnel was provided for by Board action on October 7, 1982.

Mr. Robert G. Bell gave the Board a summary of the work he has been doing as consultant for a needs assessment analysis for the Board.

Mr. Richard S. Erst, Erst and Associates, reported on the Human Services Information Systems Feasibility Computer Study, which he had just completed for the Board.

The Board appeared comfortable with the resolution that no acquiring of any hardware or software would take place at this time and that the computer matter would be brought back next month for both further study and further information.
Dr. Osanka reported that Mr. Erst's contract had been extended for two weeks (through January 15, 1983) to assess the office of Business Administration.

By general consent the Board agreed to take no action on the suggestion for combining positions, etc. at this time, but will have a work session to discuss these matters more fully.

The Board noted the Training Unit monthly update of planned activities and the attached bi-monthly Training Post.

The Grantwriting Workshop will be held on January 20, 1983 at the Juvenile Welfare Board.

Mrs. Allen called attention to the current investment report and noted that there were no agency budget transfers in the month of December.

MOTION License Board Adjustment

Dr. Rose moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried to allocate $13,001 to the License Board budget from Contingency to grant salary market survey adjustment raises as of January 1, 1983, with the hope and thought that some of this amount will be recovered from any lapse funds they may have.

MOTION M&FC Adjustment

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried to allow Marriage and Family Counseling to adjust salaries in keeping with the market survey adjustment, effective January 1, 1983, such funds to come from lapse in the program's budget.

MOTION UPARC

Dr. Harris moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried to grant the request from Upper Pinellas Association for Retarded Citizens to fund the Occupational Therapist position instead of the Physical Therapist position in the Early Intervention Program and to table the remainder of the request.

MOTION Family Service Centers

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Herman seconded a motion which carried to allow Family Service Centers to reclassify the Counselor I position within the Family Life Education Program to that of Counselor III with an annual starting salary of $13,400, with the difference to come from lapse, and with the notation that this change will affect the budgeted amount in the next fiscal year.

MOTION JSP - Project Success

Dr. Harris moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried to amend the budget of Juvenile Services Program - Project Success to reflect the Juvenile Welfare Board's level of participation in the Counselor/Coordinator salary at a level of up to $17,062, which amount is available in the salary line item.

Mr. Michaels reported on the recent evaluation of Mental Health Services of South Pinellas, Inc.

MOTION MHSSP

Commissioner Chesnut moved, and Mrs. Byrkit seconded a motion which carried that continued funding of Mental Health Services of South Pinellas, Inc. be contingent upon a satisfactory site visit evaluation in April, 1983, and a satisfactory assessment of achievement of Juvenile Welfare Board performance objectives through June, 1983.

The Board skipped discussion of the current status of court mandated support payments because there was not enough information on this matter at this time to make a judgement.

MOTION Confidentiality of HRS Client Information

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Welch seconded a motion which carried to endorse the legislative position statement recommended by staff on Confidentiality of the Health and Rehabilitative Services (HRS) Client Information System as follows:

The Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County supports amendment of F.S. 20.12 & 19 to provide further safeguards that protect confidentiality of clients.
served either directly by the Department of Health and Rehabilitative Services or through purchase of service agreements entered into by HRS with community agencies. Public disclosure of persons receiving HRS services can adversely affect credit ratings, employment, and the client's right to privacy. Such disclosure is also a violation of professional accreditation guidelines for certain private non-profit agencies.

Presently, state law requires use of "unique client identifiers" for clients of alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health clients. Unique client identifiers are composed of parts of the numerals of a client's birthdate, and social security number. Only authorized persons have information which enables them to link the unique client identifiers with the actual surname of the client. While present law speaks to "ensuring confidentiality of individual client information" for services other than alcohol, drug abuse, and mental health, no specific requirement for unique client identifiers exists. It is proposed that use of unique client identifiers, or other comparable safeguards be mandated for all services. Also, it is proposed that an appropriation be made to fund implementation of unique client identifiers for all HRS Client Information Systems.

With Board approval, the proposal dealing with Confidential Communication for Sexual Assault Victims was passed over because the groups were unable to get together as to whether it was an appropriate position for the Juvenile Welfare Board, or not.

MOTION

Dr. Harris moved, and Mrs. Herman seconded a motion which carried to have staff transmit the same letter, individually addressed, to each member of the Pinellas County Legislative Delegation indicating these are our interests, a bit of appropriate background, and asking them to contact the Board as these proceed through the legislative process. The motion indicated that the letters would be in addition to having the Board involve itself through the Director at the Legislative presentations.

Mrs. Allen suggested to Dr. Osanka that Mr. Michaels be asked to write the letters.

MOTION

Mrs. Byrkit moved, and Mrs. Welch seconded a motion which carried to accept the recommendation of staff that Criteria Number 4 (Diversification) and Number 5 (Matching Funds) of Board Policy 2-2 be suspended for assessing applications for fiscal year 1983-84 funding.

Mrs. Allen skipped over the item dealing with appointments by the Chairman to the Policy Committee.

Dr. Osanka expressed appreciation with the way in which staff had helped him.

The Board noted the media items. Ms. Lynn Blacklidge, Public Relations Specialist, spoke briefly on the intensive effort made at the request of the Board to present Dr. Osanka to the community and the many resulting interviews given to him by all the media.

By general consent the Board agreed to review the situation with the Young Women's Christian Association downcounty project in approximately three months to determine what the situation is at that point.

By general consent the Board agreed to fulfill the motion of the December 9, 1982 meeting regarding the Young Women's Christian Association upcounty project.

The Board noted appreciation letters to the Executive Director.

Dr. Osanka commented that his transition period from behavioral consultant to full time administrator had just about been completed.
After discussion of times available, Mrs. Allen set a work session for 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 18, 1983, to answer the personnel questions raised in the press during the last few days.

Mr. Smiljanich addressed individually each of the four specific allegations made in the January 5th letter from Mr. William Markman to Dr. Osanka.

Mrs. Allen declared the meeting adjourned.

The next meeting will be: January 18, 1983, 7:30 p.m. - work session.

Calvin D. Harris, Ed.D., Secretary