Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting: 1971: 10: 21: Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting at Juvenile Court Center

October 21, 1971

PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. William C. M. Bissell, Secretary; Mrs. H. W. Holland; Mrs. R. Clark Robinson; Mrs. Roy M. Speer; and Juvenile Court Judges Jack A. Page and William L. Walker. Also present: Dr. George H. Finck, Director; Dr. Raymond L. Edwards, Assistant Director; Mr. Wesley W. Jenkins, Executive Director, Family and Children's Service, Inc.; Mrs. Elouise L. Irwin, Administrator, Region 6, Division of Family Services; Mr. Kenneth Williams, Executive Secretary, and Mr. Dan Phillips, President, Community Services Council; Mrs. Lee Ferril, President, Project Playpen, Inc.; Mr. Robert Vellekamp, Executive Director, Upper Pinellas Association for Retarded Children; Mr. Douglas Moore, President, and Mrs. Jean Prekopie, Administrative Assistant, Child Guidance Clinic of Pinellas County, Inc.; and Mr. John Moore, Director, National Study Service.

MOTION Approval of minutes
Mrs. Holland moved, and Mrs. Speer seconded a motion which carried, to approve the minutes of the September 2 meeting. The regularly scheduled meeting for October 7 could not be held because of a lack of quorum.

After Dr. Finck announced that the State Division of Family Services had indicated federal funds would be available on a three to one matching basis for the costs of the study, he introduced Mr. John Moore, Director, National Study Service. Mr. Moore discussed the three options at total costs of $25,000, $60,000, and $100,000. Mr. Dan Phillips explained the interest of the Community Services Council in the study and indicated that the Council, in conjunction with United Fund, would recommend an amount equivalent to the Juvenile Welfare Board to be made available for a companion study of social services in Pinellas County. Mr. Jenkins stated that Plan Three would be the most valuable, and Judge Page indicated that only Plan Three would cover what the Board had in mind when the study was initially planned. Mr. Moore stated that he had been pleasantly surprised at the number of children in day care under the auspices of the Juvenile Welfare Board and the License Board and that Pinellas County probably had more children in licensed day care than New York City did.

MOTION Approval of contract with National Study Service
Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to approve Plan Three as offered by the National Study Service at a cost to the Juvenile Welfare Board of $25,000, or a total cost of $100,000, contingent on the availability of federal funds and with the understanding that any savings resulting from making the study in conjunction with the Community Services Council would be shared proportionately.

MOTION Authorization for Director to sign contract
Judge Walker moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried, to authorize Dr. George H. Finck, Director, to sign the contract with the National Study Service along the lines of the previous motion.

MOTION Confirmation of telephone approval of expenditures for September: checks #750 through #797 dated September 30, checks #798 through #805 dated October 7, checks #806 and #807 dated October 29.
Mrs. Bissell moved, and Mrs. Holland seconded a motion which carried, to approve the salaries as budgeted for October except for the merit increments and five percent cost-of-living increases "frozen" by the Wage Stabilization Act.

Dr. Finck announced the appointment of Mrs. Elouise L. Irwin as Marriage and Family Counselor to work with the three United Fund day nurseries located in the northern part of the County. Dr. Coleman expressed the Board's pleasure at Mrs. Irwin's joining the staff on November 15 to work with the teachers, parents, and children of Community Pride Nursery and Kindergarten, Ridgecrest Community Nursery-Kindergarten, and Lincoln Nursery.

Mr. Douglas Moore presented the request of the Clinic for staff and salary changes and after considerable discussion, the various parts of this request were acted upon.

Judge Walker moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried, to give approval to the Clinic to employ part-time Psychologists at an equivalent annual cost of the allocated $17,000 position for a period of one year, with reports to the Board as to the effectiveness of this plan.

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Speer seconded a motion which carried, to approve the appointment of Mrs. Pisters as Chief Psychiatric Social Worker contingent on notification from the Netherlands that her school is recognized as providing an equivalent degree. This motion was amended by Judge Walker, seconded by Judge Page and passed, that Mrs. Pisters be retained on the payroll at the $11,500 salary allowed by the State until such time as the notification is received.

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried, to continue to table action on the request to reclassify Mrs. Sommer as Chief Psychiatric Social Worker and to increase her salary until such time as a material change in her duties and responsibilities was demonstrated.

Dr. Finck gave the final report on compensated overtime counseling, stating that during the previous month of September a total of 41 persons were seen during 45 hours of counseling at a total cost of $293.88, plus nine hours of compensatory overtime.

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Speer seconded a motion which carried, to approve the following transfers of funds:

1. $534.42 from Contingency to Administrative Salaries
2. $1,103.27 from Contingency to Marriage and Family Counseling
3. $561.65 from Contingency to Travel
4. $103.12 from Contingency to Office Expense
5. $483.46 from Contingency to Bonds & Insurance
6. $11.00 from Contingency to Dues and Subscriptions
7. $903.24 from Contingency to License Board

Dr. Finck presented the financial statement for September, 1971, which is also the preliminary statement for the 1970-71 fiscal year. He explained that a large balance resulted from the State's assumption of expenses for foster care and from the federal matching of Project Playpen expenditures.

The reports of children in group care for August and from the Division of Family
Services for September 1971 were received by the Board. The figures for the cost per child day in both the group home for girls and group home #2 for boys do not present a clear picture of the actual costs because of the purchase of furniture and the small number of children in care during the month.

MOTION
Payment of
mileage for
Family and
Children's
Service

Mrs. Robinson moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to approve the request of Family and Children's Service to pay thirteen cents a mile for the Juvenile Welfare Board employees on their staff since all their staff members receive payment at this rate.

Dr. Finck announced that the School Lunch Program for Project Playpen had been terminated, but that the State, through federal funds from Title IV-A would pay 75 percent of the amount previously reimbursed under the School Lunch Program.

There was considerable discussion about the bids on septic tank and other installations at the Town House Residence for Girls operated by the Eckerd Foundation. Two bids had been received for this at a cost of $4,088.00 from the Robinson Concrete Specialties and $3,135.00 from the Florida Septic Tank Company. The responsibility of the Juvenile Welfare Board for the payment of this expense was questioned since the Eckerd Foundation had accepted the house in its present condition as a suitable residence for girls.

MOTION
Tabling of
bids for
Town House

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to table the request of the Eckerd Foundation for a new septic tank and other installations until the November Board meeting.

Dr. Finck announced that the paper written by Mrs. Reiner, Mr. Neet, and himself on Project Playpen for the annual meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association had been accepted for publication by Child Welfare, the official publication of the Child Welfare League of America.

Dr. Finck announced that the Eckerd Foundation had invited the Board to hold its November 4th meeting at the Town House Residence for Girls on Lake Chautauqua.

MOTION
Place of
meeting

Judge Page moved, and Mrs. Bissell seconded a motion which carried, to accept the invitation of the Eckerd Foundation for the November 4 meeting.

The Activities Reports for the month of September were presented to the Board.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next regular meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board will be held on Thursday, November 4, at the Town House Residence for Girls, Lake Chautauqua. This residence is reached from U.S. 19 three miles north of Gulf to Bay by turning right on Irions Road and then right again at the lake.

Mrs. William C. M. Bissell, Secretary