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Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1971 : 02 : 04 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Meeting in Clearwater

February 4, 1971

PRESENT: Dr. Robert E. Coleman, Jr., Chairman; Mrs. William C. M. Bissell, Secretary; Mrs. H. W. Holland; Mrs. R. Clark Robinson; County Commissioner George Brumfield; 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, Director, Family and Children's Service, Inc.

MOTION Mrs. Holland moved, and Judge Walker seconded a motion which Approval of carried, to approve the minutes of the January 7 meeting. January 7 minutes

Mr. Wesley W. Jenkins, Director, Family and Children's Service, Inc., presented to the Board a report on the program for the adoption of the hard-to-place child. He stated that under the program, with funds supplied by the Juvenile Welfare Board, there were 12 children in care at present. Three belonged to one family group; two to another; and the remaining children included two cleft palate cases, a heart surgery case, Black children, and children of mixed parentage. Mr. Jenkins felt that this program could be expanded for the further benefit of children in the County. He said that there were many children in the care of the State Division of Family Services who could be placed for adoption if concentrated and skilled service was given according to their needs. He asked the Board to think about the possibility of supplying funds in the 1971-72 budget for a professional staff member, and he believed that this program would be most successful if a Black social worker could be secured for this position.

Mr. Jenkins reported further on a situation involving the supplemented adoption of a child with a serious cleft palate and hairlip handicap, who could be adopted by a family. He stated that this youngster will require extensive orthodontia and speech therapy over a period of years, but that this expense will not occur for some time since the child is now only a year old. The family has agreed to a payment of \$65 a month, which is less than the current cost for foster care, over a period of two years, or a total of \$1,560.

MOTION Mrs. Bissell moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which Approval of carried, to approve the supplemented adoption for the cleft palate child in foster care with Family and Children's Service, Inc., at the rate of \$65 a month for a period not to exceed 24 months. cleft palate child

Mr. Jenkins also discussed the need of Family and Children's Service to continue with the program of Family Life Education, which had been begun with a grant of \$31,000 for a period of three years by the Junior League. He stated that there had been an understanding that the United Fund would finance this program at the end of the Junior League's demonstration of support, but the United Fund was unwilling to support the program even though they had given \$2,000 in 1970. Mr. Jenkins stated that the Junior League was furnishing \$1,800 for 1971 which enabled the program to operate at about 15% to 20% of the previous level. Mr. Jenkins asked the Board to consider the need for this program which he felt, and the Board agreed, had been demonstrated. There was discussion of the responsibility of the United Fund to fulfill the understanding of its support.

MOTION
Letter to
United Fund

Mrs. Bissell moved, and Commissioner Brumfield seconded a motion which carried, authorizing Dr. Finck to write the United Fund to express the Juvenile Welfare Board's concern about the financing of the Family Life Education Program for Family and Children's Service, Inc.

MOTION
Approval of
expenditures
for January

Commissioner Brumfield moved, and Judge Walker seconded a motion which carried, to approve the expenditures for January: checks #5337 through #5377 dated February 4, 1971; and checks #5378 and #5379 dated February 26, 1971.

MOTION
Approval of
salaries for
February

Mrs. Holland moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried, to approve the salaries as budgeted for February on the condition of completion of satisfactory service. Dr. Finck reported that for the month ending January 25, 1971, the Staff saw a total of 42 persons in 45 3/4 hours of counseling after hours, at an expense to the Juvenile Welfare Board of \$274.24.

The financial statement for the month of January was reviewed by the Board. Dr. Finck stated that taxes were being received more rapidly this year and that a total of \$600,000 had been invested in Certificates of Deposit in accordance with the Board's agreement with American National Bank and Trust Company.

MOTION
Purchase of
mimeograph machine
and disposal of
old model

Commissioner Brumfield moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried, to approve the purchase of a mimeograph machine from A. B. Dick, at a net cost of \$546.25, and to grant permission to dispose of the old model which will be accepted in trade-in on the new one.

The opinions of Mr. Leonard W. Cooperman, Attorney to the Juvenile Welfare Board, were discussed. The first of these opinions related to the establishment of the checking and daily interest accounts at the American National Bank and Mr. Cooperman's opinion that the transfer of funds from one account to another did not constitute an "expenditure" in the meaning of the Juvenile Welfare Board Act. The second opinion dealt with necessary arrangements in regard to the application for Title IV-A funds under the Social Security Act for Project Playpen. Mr. Cooperman stated that it would be necessary for the Board to approve expenditures that were made by Project Playpen from Juvenile Welfare Board funds before the accounts could be sent to Tallahassee for reimbursement.

The reports of the children from the Division of Family Services for January 1971 were reviewed by the Board. Dr. Finck pointed out that the child who had been in care at the Montanari Clinical School, had been returned to the community and a refund of \$433.33 was being made. The report of children in group care at the two homes operated through the Juvenile Court was reviewed by the Board.

MOTION
Payment of
necessary expenses
for Dr. Finck, Mr.
Neet, and Mrs.
Reiner

Mrs. Bissell moved, and Mrs. Robinson seconded a motion which carried, to pay the necessary travel expenses for Dr. Finck, Mr. Neet, and Mrs. Reiner to attend the meeting of the American Orthopsychiatric Association, March 21-25, 1971, at Washington, D.C.; and for Dr. Finck to attend the meeting of the American Association of Marriage and Family Counselors, Washington, D.C., March 20, 1971.

MOTION

Payment of
necessary expenses
for Mrs. Dame and
Dr. Edwards

Commissioner Brumfield moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried, to pay the necessary expenses for Mrs. Dame and Dr. Edwards to attend the Annual Meeting of the Florida Health and Welfare Council, Jacksonville, Florida, March 3-5, 1971.

Dr. Finck reported on the invitation to hold the March 4 meeting at the Peter Pan School.

MOTION

Place of March
meeting

Mrs. Holland moved, and Judge Page seconded a motion which carried, to hold the March meeting at the Peter Pan School, 3100 75th Street North, St. Petersburg, Florida.

The Activities Reports for the month of January, 1971 were reviewed by the Board.

Since there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned. The next meeting of the Juvenile Welfare Board will be held at Peter Pan School, 3100 75th Street North, St. Petersburg, on Thursday, March 4, 1971.

Wm. William C. M. Bissell
Mrs. William C. M. Bissell, Secretary