

5-20-1948

## Juvenile Welfare Board Meeting : 1948 : 05 : 20 : Minutes

Juvenile Welfare Board of Pinellas County.

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Minutes of the Meeting of the Board of Juvenile Welfare, at Clearwater  
Court House, May 20, 1948

Members Present:

Mrs. Holland  
Mrs. Bartlett  
Miss Phillips  
Judge Marshall

Others Present:

Dr. Williams  
Mr. Rogero

The minutes of the meeting of May 6, 1948 were read by the Secretary, Mrs. Bartlett, and approved.

The starting of a library was discussed and agreed upon. It was approved that Mrs. Bartlett and Mrs. Dame be paid \$2.00 for books and pamphlets which were bought at the Columbia, S. C., conference, these books and pamphlets to be placed in the new library.

A statement as to medical, ambulance, and hospital responsibility of the Board towards foster home care cases, was presented to the Board by Dr. Williams. It was decided that before adopting this policy, that a check with Mrs. Ripper would be made to determine the policy of the State Welfare Board concerning these matters.

In the discussion regarding the use of the Hillsborough County Juvenile Homes, it was brought out that Mr. Rogero had some mixed feelings about the advantages and disadvantages of the Homes. He expressed satisfaction with the fact that there were a variety of activities in which the children could participate, but had some misgivings about the disciplinary measures used, particularly the use of shackles on negro boys who run away, and of dresses on white boys who run away. The Board agreed that at the point where the Hillsborough County authorities felt they had to use these measures, they would prefer to have the child returned to the custody of Pinellas County. There was a feeling that these measures were not constructive. But it was suggested that the superintendents of the Homes seemed willing to modify their methods in line with more modern concepts and upon the advice of the Director of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

It was recognized that the travel expenses would be increased by the need for transporting children from Pinellas County to the Juvenile Homes, and by returning them to Pinellas County for court hearings and for other reasons.

It was agreed that it would be wise to sign up with Hillsborough County to use the Juvenile Homes as a temporary measure, and that this could be used while further explorations were being made of a more satisfactory method of dealing with the problem presented by those children and youths who require close custody and supervision, and cannot be held in foster homes or in the Pinellas County Juvenile Home.

Judge Marshall reported that Mr. Hunnicutt wanted \$50.00 to make an appraisal of the Cowell Home. Judge Marshall stated that it was assessed for taxes <sup>at</sup> \$1900.00, and he gave as a rough estimate a value of \$7500.00 <sup>and \$75.00</sup> per month rental value. It was agreed that an official

appraiser should be secured for the protection of the Cowell's and for the protection of the Board. Following this some more specific plans could be made with reference to the use of the Cowell Home.

It was agreed that plane fare would be advanced for the Patten girls from Tampa to Concord, New Hampshire. When the receipted bill is forwarded to Concord, the money advanced will be refunded to the Board.

Judge Marshall told the Board members that he would like for Mr. Rogero to attend the summer school, either at Columbia University, or at the Florida State University, preferably the latter; and Mr. Rogero was asked to make a comparative report and present it at the next Board meeting.

A good part of the meeting was taken up with a discussion of foster home needs and problems, with representatives of the Children's Service Bureau, and of the Florida State Welfare Board District #4. This discussion resulted in clarifying the situation and more clearly defining the responsibilities of the Children's Service Bureau, the District #4 Welfare Board, and the Juvenile Welfare Board. It was pointed out that the Juvenile Welfare Board has already accepted responsibility for the support of 15 children now carried by the Children's Service Bureau, and that 6 or 8 more are being investigated by the Juvenile Court with a view to determining whether they are dependent, and whether they should be accepted by the Juvenile Welfare Board. The Children's Service Bureau representatives said that this would make it possible for them to continue in operation according to the policies and plans which were laid down at the time the Children's Service Bureau was established. It was indicated by the State Welfare Board, District #4 representatives that some progress had been made in securing a staff for the Child Welfare Unit, and that it is hoped that they would be in a position to accept children on an individual basis sometime in June or the first of July.

Dr. Williams informed the Board that he had talked with Mr. Van Fleet about a man for the Summer Recreation Program, and that Mr. Van Fleet believes he knows of a good man. He will let Dr. Williams know this weekend.

Mrs. Harris and Miss Parsons were suggested as representatives of the Children's Service Bureau to go before the Board of County Commissioners along with Dr. Parr and Mrs. Niel Upham of the State Welfare Board, and Mrs. Holland, Judge Marshall, Mrs. Bartlett, and Dr. Williams of the Juvenile Welfare Board.

MOTION:  
Bills

Miss Phillips moved and Judge Marshall seconded that the following bill be paid:

Peninsular Telephone Company  
St. Petersburg, Florida

\$50.57

The motion was carried.

MOTION:

Patricia Ann Fischman  
2 Carpenter children  
2 Harris children  
3 Johnson children

Mrs. Bartlett moved and Judge Marshall seconded that the Board accept responsibility for the following children.

Patricia Ann Fischman  
2 Carpenter children  
2 Harris children  
3 Johnson children

The motion was carried.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 P. M.

V. B.