

30P (CHILD 2) RAISED, CHILDCARE 2011
OREGON STATE COMMITTEE ON CHILD CARE, HEALTH AND WELFARE

Minutes of Meeting

The regular meeting of the Oregon State Committee on Child Care, Health and Welfare was held at 10:00 A.M., October 14, 1942 in Room 504 Spalding Building, Portland.

Those present were Mrs. Saidie Orr Dunbar, Chairman; Dr. Vera Brandon; Mrs. Sarah V. Case; Mrs. C. D. Cummins; Miss Gladys M. Everett; Mrs. Arthur H. Goldsmith; Mrs. Thomas Honeyman; Mr. A. G. Johnson; Mrs. E. W. St. Pierre; Dr. Frederick Stricker; Mrs. C. W. Walls; Dr. DeNorval Unthank; Miss Loa Howard and Mr. Clyde Getz. Also present was Mrs. Helen Schriener, Regional Representative of the Office of Civilian Defense.

Upon the motion of Mrs. Walls, seconded by Dr. Brandon, reading of the minutes of the previous meeting were dispensed with.

The Chairman reported that, in accordance with recommendations of the preceding meeting, invitations to membership had been sent to nine additional persons and organizations and that five acceptances had been received. These were Dr. Unthank, physician and outstanding colored leader in Portland; Miss Letha Humphrey, President Oregon State Nurses Association; Dr. John Frances Belz, Director, Division of Maternal and Child Health, Oregon State Board of Health; Mr. Hugh Bowman, Department Commander, American Legion; and Dr. Lewis D. Clark, Director Crippled Children's Division, University of Oregon Medical School. Invitations sent to the following organizations had not had a reply: Portland Public Schools, State Medical Society; State Hospital Association; and Oregon County-City Health Officers Association.

The Chairman read a list of additional organizations and groups, for whom it was believed by various members of the committee, meetings would have some interest. This list had been compiled so that invitations might be sent to particular groups whenever a subject comes up for discussion which would seem to be of special interest to such groups. It was suggested that a few of these, however, including the Oregon Conference on Social Work, The American Association of Social Workers, and Protestant, Catholic, and Jewish groups be invited to attend regularly.

Dr. Unthank was welcomed as a new member of the Committee by the Chairman who expressed regret that other new members were unable to attend because of previous engagements or absence from the city. She also introduced Mrs. Helen Schriener of the Office of Civilian Defense who was a guest of the Committee.

The Chairman next reported on her visit to Washington D. C. In talking to Mr. Charles Schottland, Coordinator on Day Care for the Office of Defense Health and Welfare Services, she learned that he is going into the army and will be replaced by Mr. Charles Bruno. Mr. Schottland referred to a question which had been raised regarding the possibility of designating one agency to administer day-care programs, but said that this would not be possible. A definite effort is being made instead to get the four or five agencies involved organized into a unified plan through coordination at the top. He also said that it was not possible for anyone in Washington to say who is going to administer the funds in this state but that we must decide that matter ourselves.

In the discussion which followed the Chairman's report, it was suggested that the job of the State Committee at present is to get projects for Federal funds written up as soon as possible, because it might be necessary to send them back several times for review. This was believed to be especially true of projects developed under Lanham Act funds. Only one such project in the United States has been approved up to date (Connecticut) and standards and form of applications with respect to such funds are not well-defined. It was the consensus, therefore, that the Committee should try to work out standard procedures since agreement within the state will help to offset the delay involved in clearance of such projects.

Miss Everett commented that she had requested a copy of the project approved for Connecticut in order that it might be used as a model in this state. She also discussed the project at Medford for which an application is being prepared for Lanham Act funds.

Miss Howard expressed the belief that a definite procedure should be established in approving projects throughout the state. She stated that, in accordance with information from the U. S. Children's Bureau, application for Federal funds by either the state Public Welfare Commission or the State Department of Education for the administration of day-care programs must be approved by state and local committees as a part of an integrated program. She suggested, therefore, that specific projects be approved by County Committees and then sent to the State Committee. She also suggested that the Committee have a copy of each project as it is approved.

Considerable discussion centered around the question of organization of county committees on child care, health and welfare, and relationship between the county and local committee on one hand and county and State Committee on the other. It was the consensus of the committee that county committees should be patterned after the state committee with the various interests represented and all aspects of child welfare included in its functions. In answer to a question by Mrs. Walls concerning the effect this would have upon the Portland Day Care Committee, Miss Howard raised the question of whether the original day-care committee in Portland had outgrown its functions, just as the original State Advisory Committee on Day Care of the State Public Welfare Commission had, and should be expanded into a more inclusive committee with the existing committee serving as a nucleus. It was the sense of the meeting that the latter would be preferable and that direction should be given by the State Committee in organizing along these lines. It was agreed, therefore, that a bulletin should be prepared outlining the background, membership, and functions of the State Committee and recommending organization of similar committees (for distribution through the various official agencies represented on the Committee.). This would be helpful not only to Multnomah County but to other counties as well.

Mr. Getz referred to application forms and instructions which had been received by the State Public Welfare Commission from the Children's Bureau with respect to Federal funds for employment of administrative or supervisory personnel for day care. He stated that before it is possible to attempt to fill out this application it will be necessary to work out a basic program for the state which will include basic policies and the responsibilities of each agency with respect to various aspects of care of children of working mothers. At the suggestion of Mrs. St. Pierre, the Chairman appointed him chairman of a subcommittee which would be responsible for developing statements on (1) state and county committees on child care, health, and welfare,

and (2) basic state program for care of children of working mothers and the responsibility of various agencies.

Mr. Johnson brought up the problem of a proposal by the Kaiser shipyards that they set up day nurseries in collaboration with organized labor. He stated that Kaiser companies have established counsellors to help women wishing employment to solve their domestic problems and that one of the functions of the counseling service so far, has been to find homes which would be willing to care for children of employed mothers. However, standards have not been set up for the selection of such homes. Mr. Johnson felt that if the Committee does not offer adequate solution to the day-care problem soon, industry would set up its own program. It was suggested that industry be advised of the activities of the State Committee and that a special meeting be called to discuss with representatives of industry, the problems they are facing. Mr. Johnson was asked to assume responsibility for making arrangements for the meeting which was tentatively set for October 19 or 20, 1942.

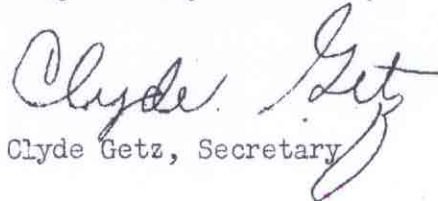
Mrs. Walls suggested that in considering developments in industry, groups other than the shipyards should be consulted. She referred to an offer from Jantzen Woolen Mills to buy a house and turn it over to the Portland Committee for operation of a day nursery. She thought that other industries are equally concerned.

The Chairman called upon Mr. Getz, as secretary, to report on the school lunch program and to discuss recommendations of a committee meeting which had been previously called to consider the problem. He explained that a meeting of interested persons had been called by Mrs. St. Pierre as Director of Civilian War Services for the Office of Civilian Defense because of the many inquiries which had been received by her office with respect to the school lunch program. It was the recommendation of this group that the matter be referred to the State Joint Committee on Health and Physical Fitness and the State Nutrition Committee, which already have a combined sub-committee on school lunch programs, for their consideration, report, and any recommendations which they care to make to the State Committee on Child Care, Health and Welfare. This was approved and the secretary was instructed to send a letter to such committees accordingly.

The Committee also considered the need of informing various groups of the existence and various activities of the State Committee and approved preparation of a release for the press.

Discussion of registration and identification of children, which had also been scheduled, was postponed because it was not possible for the special groups invited to participate to attend.

Respectfully submitted,


Clyde Getz, Secretary