

DALLAS SOCIETY FOR CRIPPLED CHILDREN
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS
JANUARY 14, 1969

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Dallas Society for Crippled Children was held at the Cerebral Palsy Treatment Center at 3:30 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 1969.

The meeting was called to order by the President, Dr. Smith.

A motion to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the last meeting and to approve them as mailed to the members of the Board of Directors was made by Mr. Jacobus and seconded by Mrs. Hill.

Present at the meeting were the following directors: Messrs. Mitchell, R. L. Thomas, Coffman, Drake, Northcutt, Francis, Reid, Vandever, Weisend, Wiggins, Jacobus, Mullins and Richard L. Thomas; Mesdames Aldredge, Abernathy, Cochran, Hill, Martindale, Rowe, Friday, Harris, McInnis, Thomas, Keay, McEntire, and Waggoner; Miss Cowden; Drs. Hale, Watkins, Thomas and Smith.

Unable to attend the meeting and excused were Mrs. Foxworth and Mrs. Ferris; Messrs. Chester, Hargrave and Swift; and Miss Dupies. Absent were Mr. Raigorodsky, Mr. Keeler and Mrs. Strickland.

Also present were Mesdames William D. White, Jr., R. O. Mullins and William Plack Carr.

Dr. Smith introduced Mr. Mullins to the Board of Directors as this was his first meeting.

Mr. Robert Northcutt, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, placed in nomination the name of Mr. Gil Clements as a director for a one year term to fill the unexpired term of a resigned member. The nomination was seconded by Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Harris, and Mr. Clements was elected unanimously.

Mrs. Harold Abernathy was then called upon to give a report on the Texas House of Delegates meeting of October 18-19, 1968. Mrs. Abernathy gave a brief summary of the organization and first meeting of the House of Delegates in Houston in 1967, and said the recent meeting in Ft. Worth under the chairmanship of Mr. Drake had been most active and worthwhile. All delegates were encouraged to speak on all business brought before the House and the discussions were vigorous. She also gave a brief background on the proposed uniform by-laws and said that the delegates chosen to go to the National House of Delegates meeting were given specific instructions on the portions of the by-laws that were to be discussed at that meeting, including the number of Board Members, and the proposed name change.

Mr. Loyd Martin was then called upon to report on the meeting of the Metropolitan Executive Directors meeting held December 17-18, 1968. Mr. Martin said that the metropolitan service level affiliates shared some common problems with the Dallas Society, but that the Dallas Society **seemed not** to have the particular fund-raising problems of some of the other affiliates. All of the metropolitan affiliates were in agreement, however, that the formula fee system as now proposed was not workable in its present form.

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Mr. Martin also gave a little information on the North Texas Planning Commission which is still in the formative stage and will attempt to deal in the future with the health needs of a region of ten counties so as to avoid duplication of services.

A survey of the treatment services and costs for the months of September, October and November, 1968, was passed out to the Board of Directors for their study. Mr. Northcutt asked for a statement from Mr. Martin about what were the present policies regarding fees. Mr. Martin announced that according to the wishes of the Board, all parents were interviewed and were asked to pay whatever portion of fees they felt they could afford. No follow-up or billing had been done, however, efforts were being made at the present time to utilize insurance payments and state and welfare aid where these would apply. Also, some parents were being re-interviewed where it was felt that over a period of time their circumstances might have changed and they could now perhaps pay a little more of the fee. Mr. Jacobus asked for an estimate of no-pay patients and Mr. Martin said his guess would be about 30%, or more. Mr. Richard Thomas asked if a billing procedure might not be investigated and Mrs. Al Hill agreed that this might have a beneficial psychological effect on the parent. Dr. Hale, however, reminded that there would be a cost involved in billing and Mr. Martin agreed that this would certainly be a factor. Mrs. Keay asked if we had a financial statement on the parents and was assured by Mr. Martin that we did have one with the income only, not the indebtedness. The statement also had the number of family dependents. Mr. Northcutt suggested that the question of fees required more study and Dr. Smith said he would appoint an ad hoc committee.

It was then brought up by Mr. Martin that the auditor from the National Society had recently been at the Center and a restricted plan might be considered whereby a donor could pay for the treatment services for a particular child and this money could go into fees and not into the divisible contributed income. The restrictions were that the donor would need to give a letter or statement of consent to take on all or any portion of a child's therapy and must be willing to be billed for this therapy up to the stipulated amount. The advantage would be that the money received would not be divisible income. There was some question, however, regarding the tax advantage to the donor. Dr. Smith said he would investigate this aspect of the plan.

Dr. Smith announced several new committees of the Board of Directors, and a list of the committees and members is attached to and made a part of these minutes.

Dr. Smith announced that on the advice of the Society's investment counsel, 200 shares of Coca-Cola and 300 shares of Sterling Drug stock were being sold and \$25,000 of Federal National Mortgage Association securities were being purchased which would increase the income from investments. As Mrs. Foxworth, the Secretary, was out of the city, and from time to time it was necessary to have someone sign certain documents, he asked the the Board elect an Assistant Secretary. Mrs. Harris proposed Mrs. Mary Emily Witt, seconded by Miss Cowden, and the nominating motion was passed.

Mrs. R. O. Mullins, co-chairman of the Art About Town project of the Guild, was then introduced and she presented to the Society a check in the amount

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\$6,594.50 in honor of Mr. Robert Cullum and a second check in the same amount in honor of Mr. and Mrs. Al Hill.

Mrs. White, Easter Seal Chairman, was then introduced who said that this year's campaign goal of \$165,000 was the highest in the history of the Society, as the Society also had the highest budget this year. She announced to date from September 1, 1968, that the Society had received \$17,977.55 in contributions, an increase from last year at the same time of about \$5,000. She showed the appeal materials for this year's campaign and asked for the support and increased effort from all the directors in behalf of the Society to help carry on the work being done at the Center.

Dr. Smith announced that \$17,500 had been received as a partial payment of the Society's share in the Hightower estate, representing about 1/3 of the anticipated income from this estate.

Mr. Drake was then introduced who gave a few comments on the meeting of the Texas and National house of Delegates, commenting that in the matters of name change, number of directors, and formula fee, all had been put back into committees for further study.

On the motion of Mr. Jacobus, seconded by Dr. Watkins, and there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.