

1/4/68

The meeting opened promptly and there were approximately 45 people present.

The minutes of the last meeting were read and approved. The minutes will regularly be forwarded to the heads of the participating agencies. (will regularly be?)

The discussion began with a continuation of the previous discussion of the goals of the seminar. The discussants made the following points;

1. For those who had attended the seminars there had been a continuing, though poorly definable reward.
2. There was a continuing need for inter-agency communication at the level of the first line personnel, the people who see people.
3. Every effort should be made to avoid politics. No one should be put in an embarrassing position by attending the seminars.
4. Some felt there was a need for assignments and programing. It was pointed out that it is difficult to tell others what the 'program' is at present.
5. Personal, intra, and interdepartment squabbles are to be avoided.
6. The role of the leader was questioned again and he responded with a repetition of his personal goals.
7. It was suggested that supervisors be included. The discussion was not resolved on this point.
8. It was felt that announcements of the meetings should be circulated among all the possible participants, including school, sheriff and church personnel.
9. The need for hospitality was underlined with the possibility of hosts to greet new comers, name tags, and coffee.

At this point the leader entertained a motion that a steering committee be empowered to consider the goals and means to the goals. The motion was passed. Mr. Robert Fleming was nominated chairman by the leader and the other members of the committee will be appointed at the next meeting, this was not confirmed by the group.

The discussion then turned to the topic of the day, 'Why is the Planned Parenthood Clinic in Washington County not being used more.' It was pointed out that there is a real need for limitation of children in some families, but that the clinic is seeing only two or three people a month out of a potential population of fertile improvident women of 1,500. Many reasons were given for this gap. The unrealistic presentation of material (too sophisticated), the denial or failure to problems by the people in need, the economics of it not costing anything for a welfare family to have a baby, the cultural factors leading fathers to want large families. It was decided to continue the discussion at the next meeting, December 14. The tone of the meeting was warm, crowded and questioning.