

**BHS Older Adult Council**  
**MEETING NOTES- FINAL**  
**Wednesday, February 17, 2016**  
**1:00-3:00 p.m., BHS – La Jolla Room**



Meeting Lead: Maureen Piwowarski

ITEM	SUMMARY
1. Welcome-Maureen Piwowarski	Maureen welcomed all to this month’s meeting and asked members to introduce themselves.
2. Public Comment	None.
3. Review and approval of Minutes- Virginia West	Minutes for the January Meeting were approved.
4. Chair’s Report- Maureen Piwowarski	Maureen expressed desire to improve the connection between the Behavioral Health Board and the OAC. She and Martin Celnar, Chair-Elect will strategize about this. Suggestion was made to circulate the Board minutes to all. Maureen asked Virginia about outreach services. She responded that the ACT teams are primarily field-based; and that as of 02/01/16, some ACT teams had been enhanced to add more slots + housing dollars. Others are under consideration for enhancement for next FY.
5. Behavioral Health Director’s Report/Updates-Alfredo Aguirre	(Did not attend)
6. Older Adult SOC Update-Piedad Garcia	(No report due to conflicting meeting)
7. MHSA Report -Gary Ulmer-Goodrich	MHSA Annual update is scheduled for public comment on March 7 <sup>th</sup> .
8. "Elder Abuse in San Diego County" Paul Greenwood, San Diego County District Attorney’s Office	<p>Mr. Greenwood has 23 years at SD DA’s office prosecuting elder abuse cases. There is a team of 4 attorneys in Downtown, South Bay, E. County and Vista</p> <p><u>Challenges</u></p> <p>Often the victim is embarrassed or they are unaware that they are a victim.</p> <p>Law enforcement will often consider the abuse a “civil matter” thus making a legal determination that they are not qualified to make.</p> <p>Two SDPD detectives working elder abuse cases have recently retired</p> <p>Many defendants have either diagnosed or undiagnosed mental illness</p> <p>Often son to mother abuse; Mothers will frequently refuse to press charges or testify; however, the Court will continue with the charges. mes it is best to get a felony conviction so that defendant can be made</p>

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	<p>to go into treatment via parole. The felony can be later reduced if the defendant is successful with Mental Health treatment.</p> <p>If defendant has a clear mental illness, attorney will claim a Code 1368, which will suspend the criminal proceedings. Defendant will be assessed by County psychiatrist and if mentally incapacitated, will go to State hospital. During this time, the victim may die making prosecuting the case far more difficult and it may need to be dismissed. If the victims do die prior to court case, “excited utterances” can be a way around the hearsay laws.</p> <p>Mental health courts are good programs, but they will not take violent offenders</p> <p>Atty. Greenwood has seen an increase (explosion) of elder abuse in countries that historically have great respect for their elders. Japan and Kenya were given as examples.</p> <p>75% of fiscal abuse cases are with victims who have cognitive decline. How is the Court able to make the jury see the abuse/victimization? The judge will give the <i>Jury Instructions</i> that will clearly define the criteria for giving consent. Also, the court can look for historical evidence of “gift giving”, which is often very telling.</p>
<p>9. Housing Council Update-Ruth Covell</p>	<p>Ruth made mention of the recently announced HHSA “Project One for All” which is a multi-year effort to house 1500 homeless persons. She also commented that HUD funds 60 programs at 40 agencies. Chris Alire requested input for state level APS housing that provides quick access for seniors. Jennifer Hurlow–Paonessa spoke of the Alpha Square project where her agency- NHA- is providing on site Geriatric Outreach.</p>
<p>10. QI Update- Dasha</p>	<p>Dasha reminded everyone that the definition for what is an “urgent” request for services is available on the OPOH, and that we have noticed some discrepancies in the interpretation of the term. The reminder about the definition is going to come out at the next Up to the Minute.</p>
<p>11. Announcements/Public Comments</p>	<p>(Not available)</p>

Meeting Notes prepared by: Virginia West

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