



# Allentown

435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, Pa. 18101

## Minutes - Final

### City Council

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Wednesday, April 3, 2024

5:45 PM

Council Chambers

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#### Special Committee

#### Roll Call: Councilpersons Gerlach, Napoli and Zucal

**Present:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

1. Election of Chair
2. Meeting Schedule/Tentative Agenda

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked how is the special committee being handled.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you have yourself, Santo, and Ed on the committee. You need to elect a chairperson first. The purpose of the meeting tonight is to elect a chairperson and tentative timetable. He stated to Ms. Gerlach why doesn't she act like the acting chairperson.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if there a motion for a chairperson for the special committee on a co-response model. After the vote, she stated that she looks forward to chairing this committee for the six-ish months that is it in place. She stated with that said and to Mike's point said and just to go over some dates, knowing that these dates could change because situations may occur. At this point, the way things are looking to be structured is that on April 24th, they will have Chief Roca, the administration, and hopefully Pine Brook and what's happening right now. Come in and share their vision, share their experiences, share where they want to go and grow so that they can have a baseline foundation of what is happening in terms of co-response. She stated that would be a good time for the DA to come in to if he is available on that date. On May 8th, they would have some current co-response models come in. Some of the ones she reached out to who are in places like: Bensalem, PA; Lansdale, PA to kind of get the local flavor, but also, Durham, NC; Albuquerque, NM; Denver, CO. The list goes on. These are co-response models. This is where you have a co-responder going out with a police officer. It looks like May 29th, potentially having a creation of options where they would develop a performance matrix for evaluating the efficacy of the different options that they would have. They are going to learn a lot as they listen to these different models. She thinks by then hopefully, they would be able to kind of corrolless something together and what the chief wants and what Council is

looking for and what the community wants. She stated to maybe wrap it up on June 12th, have a presentation, and some final testimonies. This is all kind of a rough structure. if you have ideas or Google and find something, just let her know. Let Mike know. She is sure that they can incorporate it. It is really to make sure of the purpose of the committee is Chief Roca has a vision. Let's help him execute his vision to the best degree that they can. She asked if there are any questions from her committee members.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Ms. Gerlach for all that. That is a great head start and looking forward to helping any way he can.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she is looking forward to.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated alright, cool. She stated that she is looking forward to the conversations and learning more. She asked if anyone else not on the committee or anyone in the public. She adjourned the meeting and stated that she will see them at the next meeting in April.

**A motion was made by Ed Zucal, seconded by Santo Napoli, that Ce Ce Gerlach be the chairperson for the special committee on a co-response model.**

**Yes:** 3 - Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Santo Napoli

[15-6820](#) Community Health Models

**Attachments:** [Special Committee Resolution](#)  
[Co-responder and or Cahoots discussions](#)

**ADJOURNED: 5:49 PM**