

Email from Theo Holtwijk regarding CPAC proposal. Sent March 12, 2008

Hi all:

Thank you for sending along the latest version of the CPAC proposal. I have one small comment and an additional "next step" thought for your consideration.

My one comment is this:

Sec. 2.70.2.a states: "... The town council may appoint up to six (6) additional residents to the standing committee on an ad hoc basis to assist with the development or update of the Comprehensive Plan, *and other long-range planning efforts as may be appropriate* (TH emphasis)." I have no problem with the addition of "other long-range planning efforts as may be appropriate," but wonder how that will work in concert with sec. 2.70.2.c, which states "Ad hoc members shall serve one (1) three-year term *or through completion of the project, whichever comes first.*" If these "other efforts" are each clearly separate from the comprehensive plan work and stand by themselves, then it will probably go OK, but if the LPAC+, when working on the Comp Plan, sees other possible projects (say, implementation actions to tack onto the Comp Plan work), then the "three-year term or through completion of the project, whichever comes first" could become a bit murky. I can see updating the Comp Plan work from start to finish taking up to three years. Perhaps we need to define "the project" in 2.70.2.c better? Maybe we need to rethink the one (1) three-year term idea? I think it just needs to be clear to all players what project ad hoc members will get to work on, when they will step down, and what the expectations are. This is more a head's up than a suggestion for a specific revision.

My "next step" thought is this:

If the Council adopts the CPAC proposal (with any of the options), then the question naturally follows: what's next? To that end I revised the chart I prepared for you before (and which we decided to delete from the CPAC proposal, so as not to confuse people), and made an attempt to think through again the various land use projects that are being worked on or anticipated. Which group is expected to work on what piece of the puzzle? What will be the role of LPAC? The CDC? Some of the other working groups or committees, etc.? This resulted in the attached table. I offer this to you as a way to react and make revisions to, and to help you determine how this could best work. I hope that ultimately it could also be a helpful tool to get all parties on the same page. Again, it is about clarity of our expectations. I have penciled in some dates, but those are some pretty big guesses on my part.

Thank you. Theo

Theo H.B.M. Holtwijk
Director of Long-Range Planning
Town of Falmouth
271 Falmouth Road
Falmouth, Maine 04105
207-781-5253, ext. 5340
fax 207-781-8677
www.town.falmouth.me.us