

**TOWN OF LA POINTE  
JOINT SESSION: TOWN PLAN COMMISSION & TOWN BOARD  
JOINT PUBLIC HEARING  
THURSDAY, AUGUST 23, 2012  
AT 5:00 PM AT TOWN HALL**

**Called to order at 5:08 PM by Town Plan Commission Chair [TPC] Ted Pallas.**

**TPC present: Greg Thury, Joan Martin, Suellen Soucek, Carey Baxter, Larry Whalen, Ted Pallas**

**Town Board present: Greg Nelson, Larry Whalen, Ham Ross, Jim Patterson**

**Public present per sign-in list.**

**Chair Pallas asks Zoning Administrator Jen Croonborg-Murphy if the notice has been posted, published & mailed properly.**

**Murphy responds that the posting and publishing occurred on August 9 and August 16 [affidavits available] and the mailings had been sent to the property owners.**

**Chair Pallas reads the agenda and invites the public to the podium:**

A. Paul Brummer Complaint filed June 26, 2012, regarding the use of property at 978 Middle Rd., parcel #014-00178-0200, owner: Craftivity, Inc. aka Madeline Island School of the Arts. The Complaint specifically alleges a violation of the Conditional use Permit Article 5(A) by hosting the Madeline Island Wilderness Preserve's "Annual Memorial Day Event." Article 5(A) states:

*"This Cup is conditioned on the premises being used as an art school. If the premises are used for any purpose other than an art school that will be grounds for immediate termination of the CUP."*

Charles Meech [Craftivity, Inc.] shows an enlarged copy of Article I(C) and Article 5(A) to compare the language of each.

Michael Starck reads a letter into the record. He calls for amending the CUP language to allow events and feels that this is consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.

Robin Trinko-Russell reads a letter into the record. She feels the complaint process needs to be repaired.

Pete Rogers reads a letter into the record.

Lois Carlson reads a letter into the record.

Glenn Carlson agrees with Lois' letter.

Carl Brooks also agrees with Lois and feels that Article I(C) should guide the decision: any gathering should be allowed.

Doug Spalding agrees with Lois & Robin.

Charles Nelson agrees with Pete & Lois and states that “if the language is ambiguous it falls in favor of the CUP holder.”

Ann Ferguson asks what the justification is for the discrepancy between Article 5(A) and Article I(C).

ZA Jen Croonborg-Murphy suggests reading the history of the CUP.

Chair Ted Pallas states that the CUP has been amended five (5) times.

ZA Croonborg-Murphy states that she favors suspension of the CUP and that Craftivity, Inc. was offered twice to clarify the language of the CUP and denied the offer both times. She adds that we would not all be here tonight if they had accepted either offer.

Cile Naumann addresses the Town Board specifically: the art school is a great thing, but the process has been abused. The Town Board “has opened a door that won’t be shut.” By ignoring the public’s remarks, the Board has implied that “a business can write its own CUP.”

Sara Owen responds to some of the comments that have appeared in letters:

- [to Lois Carlson’s letter] the Library has no CUP, and it is in a commercial zone.
- “signing up for classes” at an event does not equal “a wholly art event.”
- the art school should have an open house that is an art event if it wishes to show the public its facility.
- the states that the CUP goes with the landowner, and the landowner in this case is Craftivity, Inc., which is not the art school.
- Madeline Island School of the Arts is a non-profit, but it does not own the property; Craftivity, Inc. does.
- if events are to be allowed, rewrite the CUP and make it right.

Paul Brummer reads his letter into the record. He adds that if the Craftivity CUP is not suspended for one week, he will file a certiorari review asking the court to terminated the entire CUP.

Greg Nelson insists on allowing responses to the Paul Brummer letter.

Ted Pallas gives Charles Meech and Pete Rogers a chance to respond. They decline.

Greg Thury reads letters [into the record] from the following people:

M. Frederickson

Meg Brown

The Madeline Island Chamber of Commerce

Peter Havens

M. & M. Smith

Keith & Carol Sowl

Muffy & Henry Harmon

M. Allen

Motion to adjourn: Greg Thury/2<sup>nd</sup> by Suellen Soucek.

Adjourned at 6:08 PM

Submitted by Patty Hobin, Town Clerk

Approved as submitted on November 13, 2012

Patty Hobin, Town Clerk