



December 10, 2013

Mr. James Spengler
Director, Department of Recreation,
Parks, and Cultural Activities
1108 Jefferson St.
Alexandria, VA 22314

Dear Mr. Spengler:

The Virginia Maritime Heritage Foundation is a not for profit, 501 c (3) educational organization that owns and operates the schooner VIRGINIA, a 126 foot reproduction of the last all-sail vessel built for the Virginia Pilot Association in 1917. The ship conducts educational programs for youth and adults while sailing the eastern seaboard. Students participating in our programs study maritime history, marine science, maritime literature, economics, and physics.

It has been six years since the VIRGINIA last visited Alexandria and we would like to plan a visit for April, 2014. The purpose of the visit would be to expand awareness of our ship and its programs by offering free dockside tours and to develop a partnership with the Alexandria Seaport Foundation. We would like to request the use of the City's public piers for the period VIRGINIA would be visiting Alexandria and ask for a waiver to the city's dockage fee for the visit.

Under this proposal, VIRGINIA would arrive in Alexandria on Friday, April 11, 2014, and depart during the night of Monday, April 14, 2014. Over the weekend, we would offer free deck tours to the public. With the Alexandria Seaport Foundation, we would offer their students/members the use of the ship for dockside educational programs or underway day sails. Our organizations would work together to obtain grants or private corporate sponsorships to support these educational programs/events. The Virginia Maritime Heritage Foundation does not seek to offer public tours or day sails for a fee or to compete with local tour boats or maritime interests.

We would also be happy to discuss the City's use of VIRGINIA for a dockside reception or day sail at no cost. The ship makes an excellent platform for economic development and we have conducted similar events in other ports. This type of event may be of interest for Alexandria's Waterfront Council, City Council, or Tourism Department.

Thank you very much for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Henry E. Moseley
Captain, VIRGINIA
Virginia Maritime Foundation