

Schooner Exploration Associates of Maine, LLC
1200 Fourth Street, PMB 221
Key West, Florida 33040

Gary,

Appledore (A2) has operated from its current dockage with adjacent ticket kiosk since 1989. In 2015 we put Appledore Star (Star) in year-round Key West service so that there was not a gap in service while A2 operated in Maine during the summer months. We are the only historic schooners in the Historic Seaport that operates year-round. Our ships are not replicas or spirit of reproductions. Both A2 and Star are authentic historic vessels that visibility represent our islands historic past successfully for more than 34 years.

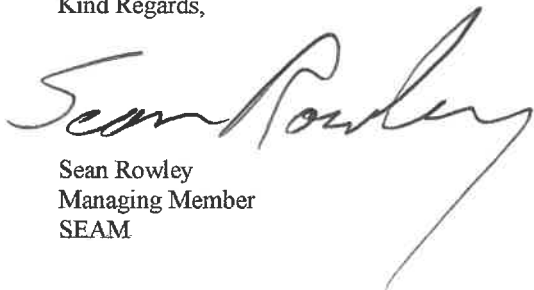
Operating old wooden schooners is more akin to a love affair than a tour boat business. We are stewards of these fine vessels and sharing our love of traditional sailing with Key West visitors is most certainly a major goal of the Historic Seaport. One does not need to look far to see what happens to historic wooden vessels when their stewards don't provide the care love and money that is required to protect these unique pieces of history.

~~The ticket kiosk that we have leased even before the City acquired the Seaport property~~ (34years) is absolutely essential to our business. Without it we would not survive. There is no more important purpose at the Historic Seaport than protecting the operation of historic schooners. Our kiosk is integral in that objective.

Our lease term expired during the height of the pandemic. To the best of my knowledge the City was in between property managers. My business partner had been the person in charge of managing our leases. When we continued to get invoices stipulating the annual increases in our lease for our kiosk, we assumed this was part of the negotiated terms of the lease. In the past Ms. Wilbarger had always notified us as well as most tenants that their lease was coming to term. It was not until we were updating our files that when we could not find the Kiosk lease. We went to the Bight office to get a copy. That was when we learned that it had expired.

Your assistance in facilitating the continued preservation of historic vessel operating at the seaport is greatly appreciated.

Kind Regards,



Sean Rowley
Managing Member
SEAM