

Located in Darden Towle Park

P.O. Box 281
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902



LEWIS & CLARK EXPLORATORY CENTER

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In partnership with

the Home Front Chapter

March 20, 2015

Received

MAR 20 2015

County of Albemarle
Board of Supervisor's Office

BY HAND DELIVERY

ATTN: John C. Lowry, Chairman.
Economic Development Authority
County of Albemarle
401 McIntire Road
Charlottesville, Virginia 22902

Re: Note to the Economic Development Authority of
Albemarle County, Virginia, dated April 17, 2013, in
the face amount of \$130,000.00

Dear Mr. Lowry:

Pursuant to paragraph 1 of the above note, the Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center of Virginia, Inc. respectfully requests that the date by which the Principal Amount Outstanding shall be due and payable in the above be extended for an additional six months to October 31, 2015.

Despite our best efforts, working with helpful County staff and our own contactor, the site work is not complete and we are not yet in a position to get a certificate of occupancy, which precludes opening and the substantial ability to fundraise resulting from opening. Accordingly, the revenues both from operations and additional fundraising from being open have not yet occurred.

There have, however, been a number of wonderful developments.

We have entered into a Completion Contract with our contractor, which resolves all issues remaining in the contract and provides for the completion of the contract.

We have completed our building, which is quite beautiful, and largely finished our site improvements which highlight our wonderful space along the river.

We are also excited about the interior fittings of our new building which include wonderfully diverse work/meeting/banquet tables with attractive comfortable chairs and lots of appropriate Lewis and Clark art, artifacts and objects.

We have moved both the Keelboat and the Red Pirogue to prominent spots adjacent to the building. Our interactive apprentice boatbuilding areas have now been relocated by the new center and are ready for learning. We have a kayak shed near the river and have explored, and adopted a wonderful mile of flat water, from where Trevillion Creek intersects the Rivanna River upstream for about a mile, for pirogueing, canoeing, and kayaking

I have enclosed a composite picture to show how we look today.

This year we offered our handmade red, white, green and yellow Pirogues to families for a boating adventure. Folks loved it. This activity will clearly be an important one as we move forward with our programs.

We anticipate aggressive and exciting fundraising and opening events, both quiet and soft, joyous and loud, soon.

We have developed and improved programs which provide much for kids of virtually all ages. Alexandria Searles has continued to offer a truly amazing number of stimulating and creative programs throughout 2014 and has maintained close contact with our learning and education partners.

The Home Front Library is brimming with books and will be a wonderful spot for small meetings and reading about and contemplating the marvelous expedition.

Our Board, both collectively and as individuals, have all been wonderfully supportive and resilient. Because of that I know we will fulfill both our vision for a great place and our ongoing mission to excite and educate.

I anticipate that we will kick off a substantial "glad to be open and in business" fundraiser in the next month or two. Before that, we need to complete our site and obtain our full occupancy permit.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration of our request. I am glad to appear before the Authority to answer any questions that you may have.

Very truly yours,

Francis McQ. Lawrence

Cc: Larry W. Davis, County Attorney
Chris Engle, City of Charlottesville Office of Economic Development
Jack Kelsey (by electronic mail)
Trevor Henry (by electronic mail)
Lewis & Clark Exploratory Center Board of Directors
Alexandria Searls, Executive Director

