
From: Mann, Melissa [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=AB0197D1514F4C099869869FD8908A8F-MMANN]
Sent: Fri 12/8/2023 5:35:34 PM (UTC-05:00)
To: Mike Martin ([REDACTED])
Subject: Email to Rep. Harkins

Hi Mike,

Please see below for the email from Billy forwarded by Representative Harkins. The Representative sent it to the Governor's office who then forwarded it to us for reply.

Thanks,

Melissa

Melissa L. Mann | Director | she/her/hers
Bureau of Historic Sites & Museums | Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission
400 North Street E-107 | Harrisburg, PA 17120
[REDACTED]
www.phmc.state.pa.us



Pennsylvania Historical & Museum Commission

----- Forwarded message -----

From: William Sabatini <[REDACTED]>
Date: Sun, Dec 3, 2023 at 11:21 PM
Subject: Flagship Niagara League Invoices
To: <[REDACTED]>

Pat,

I hope this email finds you well. I wanted to give you an update on the outstanding invoices that FNL has with PHMC. I have attached our Accounts Receivable report. As you can see we are now owed nearly half a million dollars with more to come now that shipyard has been completed. We have relied on our donors to see us through this far, especially [REDACTED]. To keep Niagara operating and the League solvent, he has contributed \$350,000. He started helping in July when I expected the first invoice to be paid soon after. I don't feel it appropriate to continue to ask him to cover PHMC's bill. We have continued to operate in good faith including successfully bringing Niagara to shipyard, conducting the required inspections with the USCG and American Bureau of Shipping,

and bringing Niagara back from shipyard. This was all done with only 1 propeller as PHMC chose not to replace it this Fall. By focusing the League's resources on Niagara's operations, we have again depleted our own operational funds while we wait for PHMC reimbursement. This has been detrimental to our relationships with local vendors and our own community partners.

I recently found out that PHMC forgot to review one of our invoices from 10/24/23 so it did not start the process until this week. I also was able to see that PHMC took nearly all of the 30 days to sign the settlement agreement for the invoice from 5/4/23 as well as the office of the Deputy General Counsel so it would appear we are still 120 -150 days away from payment on that invoice. The invoices from 6/30/23 and 8/24/23 were reviewed and approved 10/6/23 yet it took nearly 2 months to draft the second settlement agreement which is exactly the same as the settlement agreement for the invoice from 5/4/23. This means we are 150 days away from payment on that invoice now. It is becoming more and more difficult to believe that these delays in payment are not being done with intent to bleed out the League. If this is the intent of PHMC then they have been successful.

FNL has only \$2,000.00 left and will not be able to cover our next payroll. If we do not have an influx of cash before then I will be forced to lay off nearly all of the FNL staff and shift the few remaining to half time. We do have other sources of revenue and will be able to pay the shipyard bill as well as our credit card bills by the end of December. We receive funding from ECGRA and we will have our annual appeal underway in December. This will not be enough to bring staff back on though. Our annual budget is normally around \$1.1 - \$1.3 million. To have nearly half of that held up by bureaucrats that won't write, review, or sign documents in even a government standard of timeliness is a burden that the League can no longer bear. Please see the list of invoices attached and the processes they have been through.

For the past few months I have been reminding PHMC that they would need to insure Niagara by 11/26/23. FNL has insured the ship since 2010. As far as I can tell no action was taken and Niagara's insurance lapsed on 11/26/23. I can't fathom what motivated PHMC not to take this simple action. The effect of this decision was that no public visitors or crew could go onboard Niagara until insurance was bound again. This prevented the crew from taking care of the ship and starting the winter cover. On 11/29/23 action was finally taken and insurance was bound and set retroactive to 11/26/23 after I informed PHMC of the ramifications on the ship not being insured. I add this story to this email because **payment was made to Intact Insurance in less than 48 hours to**

ensure that the ship is insured. I argue that getting the Flagship Niagara League paid is as important because we will soon be in a situation where Niagara will not have a crew to care for her because of PHMC's payment delays. We have been waiting for **213 days** for payment.

I know you looked into this before and I'm not sure what they told you, but Niagara's care and future are at risk if the League is forced into a stasis position while waiting on the pleasure of unelected bureaucrats who feel they have the last word in the Pennsylvania government's actions. If there is anything you can do to get the League paid any of these amounts then our ship will benefit greatly as well as all the people that will be allowed to keep their jobs. We have been able to keep all of this out of the news so far but as soon as our staff has been laid off with no sense of when or if they will be brought back we lose our ability to keep this quiet and it will be an embarrassment to PHMC and the Commonwealth.

I will be back in town Wednesday, December 6th, 2023 and available to meet with anyone you feel is appropriate to move this along.

Sincerely,

William Sabatini
Executive Director
Fleet Captain
Flagship Niagara League

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

www.sailfnl.org

2022 Tall Ships® America Sail Trainer of the Year
2022 Tall Ships® America Port of the Year

From: Mike Martin [REDACTED]
Sent: Fri 12/8/2023 5:45:05 PM (UTC-05:00)
To: Mann, Melissa [REDACTED]
Subject: [External] Re: Email to Rep. Harkins
Attachment: image001.png

***ATTENTION:** This email message is from an external sender. Do not open links or attachments from unknown senders. To report suspicious email, use the [Report Phishing button in Outlook](#).*

Melissa,
Thank you for sharing.
I find this troubling to say the least
I look forward to our next conversation.
Have a great weekend.

Mike

On Fri, Dec 8, 2023, 5:35 PM Mann, Melissa <[REDACTED]> wrote:

Hi Mike,

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Melissa

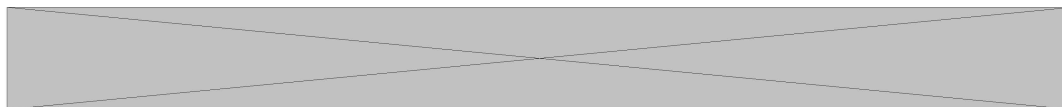
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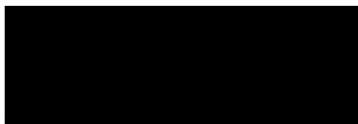
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