

We have never been officially asked to pay, although payment for the use of the room was mentioned at the June board meeting. We are willing to provide the MCPL with a yearly payment of \$1,200.

We also have a great amount of support both locally and from outside the county and state.

In a few days we had a total of 630 people sign petitions in support of keeping us in the MCPL Genealogy Room. (342-Mason City, 121-Cerro Gordo Co., 90-Surrounding Co., NCIIGS area, 34- from Iowa, 43-out of state)

For 40 years we have been able to staff and help countless numbers of patrons interested in family history, local history, and history of the surrounding areas. We feel we compliment the MCPL by providing this genealogical service. Everything in the Genealogy Room is done by Society Volunteers, keeping the library staff free to go about their daily tasks. While visiting Mason City there are a number of visitors who stop by the MCPL looking for help and information on their ancestry. They are happy to find a knowledgeable, friendly face to lend a helping hand.

In the Globe article Mr. Henry said, of relocating materials in the library itself. "They'd be put into the collection where it makes the most sense."

In our opinion, it makes more sense to keep the collection close to the researcher; this saves time by not having to ride the elevator to the 3rd floor to access the genealogy materials. This is a good reason to have more dialogue.

She told us she would only accept 500 of our 5000 plus library volumes. Rod knows our genealogical room better than anyone and can put his hands on most volumes by memory.

We provided you the answers to a number of questions you posed to us....We would like you to provide us with the answers to a few of our questions:

1. We would be interested in the usage and revenue figures for the Mason City Room and class room adjacent to the commons. If these rooms are not receiving the projected usage why add another room?
2. Is there that much demand for another room?
3. Since you started charging for the rooms has the usage increased or decreased?

We are offering this proposal:

1. We suggest that the room name be changed to the “Genealogy and History Center”.
2. We will provide a yearly income of \$1,200.
3. That the NCGIS collection be left intact and under the control of the NCGIS.
4. We would like to be allowed to replace the shelving, which was removed by the Library Director.
5. We currently provide educational classes on a monthly basis or as needed. We have always worked with library staff with programming issues.
6. There has never been an issue with volunteer staffing ...our staff has always been knowledgeable.
7. We are hoping to work out our differences, so whatever we agree on... we would like it to be a more permanent resolution.

Whatever we decide will affect the community in the years to come. The community needs this service and we are hoping to continue being a part of the MCPL Family to address our patron’s needs.