

Interior Design Subcommittee Response Template

Subcommittee: **Reading Room**

Subcommittee Point of Contact: **Robert Brady**

Date of last subcommittee meeting: **8 January 2012**

1. What's on your subcommittee's "wish list?" Please briefly summarize key findings.

- Touch screen orientation wall/area so visitors can get an overview of CS and the RR purpose / layout.
- Defined "zones" to accommodate the various activities (i.e. quiet study, group discussion/conversation, computer research, children's reading area, etc.)
- Flexibility and openness – Moveable wall panels, furniture and ample electrical outlets for maximum flexibility of RR layout.
- Use of mobile technology (iphones/ipads) to process sales along with a Point of Sale (POS) computer to track and record RR inventory (this could be located in an office or back room area if not required for sales).
- Large flat screen monitor(s) for televising TMC broadcast, chats, and lectures.
- Touch screen or computer stations where visitors can have access to digital CS/RR resources.
- Forward-thinking, well-functioning technology integrated throughout the space and in the sales process.
- Unisex restroom.

2. What areas may need more discussion among the membership?

- How to best engage the public after hours and outreach to the community. Members have already suggested some ideas, but there needs to be a cohesive plan/strategy in place to best help and serve the public.
- Where does the POS inventory system need to be located?
- Does the librarian need a station within the RR? What would the requirements be of this "station" area?

3.. Who are the constituencies who will use this space?

- The membership and the general public, who want a quiet place to study, pray and collect their thoughts during a busy work day.

- General public wanting to learn more about religion, God, and Christian Science.
- Groups that may want to hold study sessions or bible discussion.

4. What are the various functions of the space? Describe *how it should work* not how it should look.

- Sales/Bookstore area – Leveraging mobile technology (iphones/ipads) to process sales, there does not necessarily need to be a defined Point of Sale area (e.g. Apple Store), however we will still probably need a Point of Sale (POS) computer to track and record RR inventory which could be located at the Reading Room Librarian’s station (in the RR) or in a back office. Bookstore area displays C.S. publications that visitors and customers can sit and read/browse.
- Library - In addition to books for purchase, we have library reference books (e.g. bound volumes, concordances) most likely to be accessed by those using the technology area and private study area.
- Private Study area – A quiet space where 2-3 people can read, study, and pray. Area will be soundproof to allow for maximum privacy and should be accessible to the library and books for purchase.
- Children’s area - A fun space where kids can lounge and read children’s CS literature while an adult is utilizing the other areas of the RR. Children’s books for purchase could be located in this zone.
- Group/discussion area - A space where people can meet and discuss or where the RR librarian can talk with a new visitor(s), break out area(s) that can also be used for CS youth summits, teleconferencing, other meetings.
- Technology area - Computer stations for accessing digital CS resources and playing CS CD/DVDs. Color printer(s) for printing lessons, search results, etc. Wireless internet access for downloading Bible Lessons and other CS publications on iPads and other eReaders.
- Potential spillover space - Lectures, meetings, associations.
- Storage - For inventory, extra furniture (chairs), and supplies.

5. What new ideas from other churches or buildings would you like to see incorporated?

- Demountable glass or other flexible partition types.
- Technology integrated seamlessly into the architecture (glass touch screen walls, built-in flat screen monitors, etc.).
- Mobile technology for POS (Apple).

6. How will the uses of this space change? Throughout the week, throughout the year or over the long-term? How will it adapt for other purposes like holding a regional summit?

- The Reading Room can be used in several ways, based on the needs of the membership and community. The Reading Room will have maximum flexibility (i.e., movable furniture/walls) that will allow the use of RR space, at first, for church committee meetings, Wednesday services, and overflow area for larger meeting held in the church and Sunday school. Later on, the RR can host and support C.S. Lectures, Associations, and Bible Study Meetings/workshops. As outreach to the community, the RR space can function as an after school center for students, a place for community meetings, and hosting book talks on S&H for those customers/visitors not familiar with Christian Science. For the C.S. Regional Summits, the RR can support summit breakout sessions for youth, just as in 2008, when Third church hosted a Spiritual Activist Summit in D.C. The RR could possibly be set up to provide video teleconferencing for lectures, chats, meetings, and summits.