

Augusta County Historical Society
Acc #213
Fannie Bayly King Collection
1978

Size: 2 folders

Scope & Content

In 1978 Mrs. Riddlebarger took on the task of changing the name of the Staunton Public Library to the Fannie Bayly King Library. When Mrs. King conveyed the property to the City of Staunton in 1940, one of the conditions of the conveyance was that the library be known as the Fannie Bayly King Memorial Library. As indicated by the documents in this collection, the use of the name did not take place until 1978 when Mrs. Riddlebarger contacted city officials and provided copies of the 1940 resolution. Mrs. Riddlebarger also provided information as to Mrs. King's role as director and president of the Community Welfare League. In a three page handwritten note, Mrs. Riddlebarger described her efforts to change the name of the library. Her efforts were successful in having Mrs. King honored for her donation and years of active community work.

Historical/Biographical Note

By 1940, the public library had outgrown its quarters in the YMCA. Mrs. King donated her residence, Kalorama, located on South Market Street with the proviso that she could use the second floor of the home until her death. The Community Welfare League was formed in 1914. Mrs. Fannie Bayly King directed its activities as executive secretary. This was the first county welfare organization in the Commonwealth of Virginia and became a model for the public welfare system that developed after 1922

Organization/Arrangement

Folder: 1

1. Copy of the resolution accepting the conveyance to the City of Staunton of the Kalorama property of Mrs. Fannie Bayly King for a public library upon certain trusts (1 page)
2. Copy from the Minutes of the City of Staunton June 13, 1940, pertaining to the resolution of conveyance.(1 page)
3. Letter to the Staunton City Council from Mrs. Carl Riddlebarger regarding the change of name for the Staunton Public Library to the Fanny Bayly King Memorial Library (1 page)
4. Letter from the City of Staunton signed by Michael T. Kivlighan, Mayor, to Mrs. Riddlebarger in recognition of her efforts in establishing the proper name of the public library (1 page)
5. Letter from the City of Staunton signed by R. Gene McCombs, City Manager, informing Mrs. Riddlebarger of the efforts to publicize the name of the public library (1 page)

6. Newspaper article from the Staunton News Leader dated April 17, 1978, publicizing events at the Fannie Bayly King Library.
7. Handwritten note signed by Irma R. describing her efforts to change the name of the library (3 note pages)

Folder 2:

1. Constitution of the Community Welfare League (4 pages)
2. Copy of a notice which appeared in the Staunton News Leader, October 21, 1928, regarding the Community Welfare League (1 page)
3. Part of a newspaper article regarding the Community Welfare League with a list of board members and fiscal/financial operations. (2 pages-1 column per page)

Miscellaneous

Other entries: Walton Opie