Case: Moving Our Collections?

Context: A committee I chair is looking into possibly renting a larger room in our current building. I sent around a spreadsheet detailing four possibilities, and asked for input.

Tim:
I took a look at the spreadsheet and I thought that to help me get some perspective I should look up rates for climate-controlled storage units. A (very) brief look online suggests that in Waterville (at least) a climate-controlled storage unit of our size will cost ~$150/month. This makes our current rental rate look like a steal! I think this is a useful context for interpreting the spreadsheet.

> Me:
> Thanks for looking up the costs of a climate-controlled unit, Tom, but unless I'm mistaken I don't think we need something climate-controlled. Our new freezer handles our frozen specimens and as far as I know there's nothing else in our collections that needs temperature regulation. Am I missing something?

Tim:
Terry, my point about climate-controlled is that most storage units have no heating - they're subject to the same temperatures as the outdoors. Our current (and future) space at Viles is climate-controlled because it is heated in the winter keeping the space at roughly the same temperature year round. We (MMNP) are not directly paying for heating costs (or electricity for our freezer), which is why I felt that a climate-controlled storage unit offered useful context for thinking about the cost of spaces at Viles.

> Me:
> Thanks Tim, well said.

