



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
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10/29/2012

Tuesday, Oct 29 2012 Uncle Sam Committee

In attendance: Laurie, Andy and Carl

Meeting called to order about 8:15PM

** indicates 'action item'

1. Laurie presented photos of before/after at the statue
2. Discussion of ATED Kiosk/signage request:
 - Laurie presented a proposal to put a semi-permanent structure, which Carl suggested might be a representation of 'birthplace' looking building, perhaps a garden shed painted to look historically accurate which could serve to describe Arlington sites and history on it's exterior walls and be opened when staff were available to be in it. Something like the "Thoreau" hut at Walden might do very nicely.
- ** Laurie to make minor changes to his proposal and present it
3. Discussion of work to locate U.S. Birthplace site/connections with Arl Historical Society:

Using map overlays a preliminary location for the birthplace has been found.

Carl noted that there is, so far, no U.S. history in possession of the official Arl Hist. Society archives and their website doesn't return anything on Sam, when a search is done—suggest we alter that over the next years.

- ** Carl will ask her for help from Garden Committee and seek a meeting with Patsy and members of the Committee at some time/place that works for her to discuss this.
- ** Carl will seek out Richard Duffy and others to further corroborate his findings, including checking with the Middlesex Registrar of Deeds for house records.
4. Upkeep of U.S. Plaza:

Patsy Kramer (Arl Hist Society/Town/Garden Club) stated in a call with Carl that we have the authority to manage the site and that we could do more to make it look nice. Laurie stated that Patsy was once a US Comm. member. Andy noted that he might be able to provide some grass planting assistance

- ** Laurie to contact Mike Rademacher to determine what we can/can't/should do on landscaping

4. Website: There was discussion of positioning our committee on the web better:

It was decided to construct a preliminary website.

** Carl will build a simple site, using his work done on the Ottoson OPAC (PTO) site as a template.

5. Laurie presented his "Million Dollar Challenge" proposal to solicit more involvement from citizens in the town's committees. It was suggested that his questionnaire be forwarded to the Town Meeting/Selectmens offices who organize such meetings.

Meeting ajourned about 9:30PM