



MEETING DATE: January 11,2022

LOCATION: Virtual meeting held on Microsoft Teams

ATTENDING: Linda Mealey-Lohmann, Ali, Van, Romi Slowiak, Bill Zajicek, Ping Wang, Kao Lee Thao, Caroline Van, Regina Rippel, Susan Klevan, Jack Byers, Bill Pesek, Jijun He, Carol Brash, Meichun Jia, Jeff Vang, Haoyu Zhao, Thangying Chuyangheu, Vallen Herr, Brian Hammer, Parks and Recreation Commissioner Choua Khang.

CITY OF SAINT PAUL: Brett Hussong, Ellen Stewart

COUNCIL: Ward 1 Council Member Dai Thao, Chris Xiong Ward 6 Legislative Aide

NOTES BY: Brett Hussong & Ellen Stewart, January 11, 2022

PROJECT WEBSITE: www.stpaul.gov/phalenchinagarden

AGENDA:

- | | |
|------|--|
| 6:30 | INTRODUCTIONS |
| 6:35 | DESIGN ADVISORY COMMITTEE ROLE
CITY DESIGN PROCESS
PROJECT BACKGROUND/ DAC #2 HMONG PLAZA DISCUSSION
HMONG PLAZA REVISED LAYOUT |
| 6:45 | DISCUSSION |
| 7:45 | NEXT STEPS |

PURPOSE OF MEETING:

To review the location, size and design elements of the Hmong Plaza to understand feasibility of design.

PRESENTATION:

Brett Hussong opened the meeting with introductions, the role of the Design Advisory Committee (DAC), process, project background and recap of DAC meeting #3. Brett then provided analysis of the existing site conditions for the Hmong Plaza. See DAC #3 presentation on project website for map.

Recap of HMONG PLAZA DISCUSSION (DAC#2):



The purpose of the Hmong plaza: Celebration, education, meditation, recreation (tai chi, qui gong, yoga); A cultural bridge and strengthen friendships; Display Hmong arts and heritage; Hmong contribution to St. Paul; Peace and tranquility

What we heard:

It is too late to move the plaza because of the feng shui blessing and site dedication

An alternate location would be outside of garden - would not promote friendship

Current location would not support 200-person plaza - alternate site is recommended.

200-person plaza would not be in harmony with an intimate garden

Next Steps:

Parks and Recreation will continue guiding the discussion and promoting a transparent process.

Parks and Recreation will reach out to design team (city, artists, Changsha China designers) to explore options and then will schedule a meeting to continue discussion

Hmong Plaza redesign 2022: Space and Function

Redesign 2022 shown with similar capacity as the initial design

2,800 SF so slightly larger

Has more of an open layout with multiple axis – N/S and E/W

Relocates Hmong stones to allow flexibility

Includes Hmong cultural elements

Feedback requested

- What are your thoughts about the 50 person plaza with overflow space for 200 people?
- Can the plan direction change from north/south to east/west?
- Is the overflow space properly separated from the walkway for events?
- Is the overflow space suitable for larger events?
- Any other “high level” comments?

Plaza size/Program:

Linda - Where did we get the idea of 200 people? How was this number determined? Is there an opportunity to have the best of both worlds? Is overflow space suitable for larger events? It would be folding chairs and other amenities for 200 people.

Ying – Need community input to make sure space can be used by everyone. That is the idea of increasing capacity from 50 to 200. It is not only for Hmong people. There is already enough space in the existing area so we keep that and move over because we need some other detail limit on that. Also thinks



Hmong necklace – Hmong people have many symbols so those can change. Can be flexible. Need to think about how to impress or interest the funders.

Christina - will leave Hmong perspective to professionals. Wants to talk about concerns about having plaza to accommodate 50 people – we should not worry just about the space. If it is not going to accommodate for 200 people. We could use the spaces surrounding it including green space, paths and Chinese pavilion to expand the area. So, we should not worry about the size itself. All area around it should be considered but concentrate on the design of the plaza itself. There have been 200 people in the space before for an event. Did not feel it was over-crowded. Good for mingling.

Linda – questions about the use of the greater space by people with high heels, being in the green space is not logical. Also, hide and reveal will make it difficult to use the China Pavilion as an extension of the space. It would be good to hear more from the Hmong members to understand use during large events? Would there need to be chairs.

Brett – a lot of event preparation and set-up of chairs for 200 people. Would require permit. Would need to be satellite restrooms. To regulate and permit the space it would cost typical park fees.

Ali - wants to jump back to the rectilinear aspect. Previous design offered more. Overflow space is surprising and generous not just for Hmong overflow but offers sense of intimacy. Plaza is well positioned with incline. Also wants to second Linda's comment on keeping green space in good condition. If it will be a place for graduations, fashion shows, weddings, then having non-grassy area is important. The park is very much a part of all of the elements that exist in it.

Ying: Need to design something based upon funding. Need more space for generic people to use and should be part of use garden. More money from funders if it is multi-use for others. We have enough space and we should move forward.

Brett – will work with Kao Lee and consider ways to increase functionality and respond to some of these other comments regarding overflow. Going forward, it sounds like this plaza size is adequate but utilizing the grass overflow if we can have enough flat space in the grass.

Mary – listening to conversation about pushing details around but has not heard agreement on the idea of having 200 more square feet and adding flat lawn space is adequate. Is there a plan to get more Hmong representatives in agreement so that is an understanding of what we are proceeding with? I understand you must move on and make risky choices. But this is not much of a change from the original and the change was to make sure we are mitigating some of the different ideas? Is it possible to get some partial consensus? It does not feel like the space has been kicked around enough.

Brett - any change in the size compromises the overall design of the China Garden.



Bill – what would be the realistic expectation of overflow use? Seating? There are a lot of costumes and footwear that will not work on a gradual slope or a slope at all. So, knowing whether the events will be sit-down is important to understand.

Mai Chong – we are all representatives and if we need things from staff, we should be able to ask that of them. Big question is how will this space be used? How will people want to use the space? Suggest putting this online and Hmong Advisory Committee members meet with them and review the design to get feedback. Make it available. Make it public. If they do not show up, it is on them. Encourage meetings that members of committee are pushing out the information.

Linda - This will be an educational space. There will be an everyday use as an educational space. Only a few times a year will it be used for a large event. (Christina agrees with Linda 100%)

Brett – we have something to react to. We are nearing the end of our time today so I hope everyone can take this out to your network. Find out what people think of the use of multi-use space that is graded appropriately. perhaps a survey would be possible for feedback on use. **No decision was made regarding the size of the Hmong Plaza.**

Design Elements:

Kao Lee Thao – I think the latest Hmong plaza design is a great starting point but I don't feel it represents Hmong Americans well. It has Hmong Chinese influences, but I feel we need a Hmong Southeast/Asia/American/Chinese blend. You want those who live in MN to see themselves reflected in this design. Just like the Hmong Heritage wall, we envisioned the Hmong Plaza as having both MN Hmong symbols and Changsha Hmong symbols and representing both cultures – because this is a sister-city China

Kao Lee - Hmong Heritage wall was a blend (Choua)

Ali: Rectilinear form is not as appealing. Allow for more organic space. Overflow space is surprising and generous. Offers sense of intimacy and overlook. Need to consider the greenspace.

Layout and Vegetation:

Does there need to be another backdrop on the east side if we are using an E/W axis?
Separation from walkway enough?

Romi: 1. Please allow the original undulating back wall to be reconsidered by Hmong Artist, Kao Lee Thao. 2. Lower front wall from 3.5' to 18" for more seating. 3 plan for temporary tent to be erected with a metal pole structure to be put into holes in the walls and perhaps one in the center. 4. Reconfigure the "bench entry". Use various height of shrubbery for veiling and drama and reposition the benches to be



oriented to the plaza from another vantage point. 5. Welcome Kao Lee's suggestions as to how to make this more welcoming to MN Hmong while also recognizing sister-city elements.

Carol Brash – I agree that the benches are not a style that blends with the style of the garden and that they would not be the lovely view one would expect to be framed by the gateway. Could possibly use trees between the benches instead of bushes to provide more mystery/visual interest. Also, too close to path for maintenance, I suspect. How close is it to the east wall? 80' from pavilion plaza

Bill P– could a berm be used to create some sense of mystery? Also, distance from the main travel path is very tight. Can there be more of an organic separation between plaza and trail? Picturing 200 people there v. the 100 people at the dedication, the front side of the plaza would be very crowded. Expanding to the west would require some major grade changes and overflow would go into Paul V. plums. Grass would be stretched for use a couple of weekends in a row. Events would need to be staggered. Perhaps pervious pavers would help. Irrigation would be required. Appreciate the decorative patterned pavers. Don't want to downplay the pavilion itself where large sections of concrete were poured. Will there be another presentation tonight of the stone entry gate? Service Drive – does it turn into an entry area? Or was that the 2017 plan?

Brett - It goes to a pump house but is unpaved. Suggestion that main path around the lake be removed. Not seen as a preferred. Consider pushing back and use wall as retaining wall to create space and overflow in front

Bill P– concerned about the existing oak and impacts on it from the wall construction.

Bill Z- would like to consider pushing it back as far as possible and using migration wall as retaining wall. Wondering what Kao Lee Chao and Linda are interested in seeing to provide better representation.

Choua would not lower the back wall if it is to tell a story and structure for people to gaze at.

Linda – thinks there is confusion about the back wall v. the front. Clarification: Bill suggested the back wall be a true retaining wall, not lowering it. Romi suggested lowering the front wall for seating.

Bill P– if we can make it a true retaining wall that should work

Kao Lee Chao – what would you like to see? Merge the two. Going to China is different from living in America. Flushing it out with the other designers and listening to what the Hmong Community members want.

Mai Chong – from design point – will there be any natural vegetation or trees? Shade is important. Natural environment.



Brett – we want plant materials. Will be one of the tasks of the designers looking at the species to make sure we still have Chinese principle of the forms. That would also help with the hide and reveal aspects of the design

Bill Z – plantings in the area – if it goes back to the migration story wall being a retaining wall it will be covered by trees. We do need to do more plantings along the walkways

Bill P – need for natural shading but sun aspect is important and trees behind wall will not do much to provide shade.

Symbols and Cultural details:

Brett - Images were the first design concepts from the Chinese artist. Next step is to take a look to understand what specific cultural elements should be included? Wind instrument, Women's headdress?

Bill – Ying mentioned a grinder

Mai Chong – rice patties, bamboo are things that would be good symbols.

Brett – it will not be possible to use bamboo in the landscape nor rice patties. Having those show up symbolically would be good.

Choua – Story cloth. Could a concept from that be used for the wall? Headdress feels a bit Mongolian. Good elements of Hmong. Could that be rendered into stone?

Linda – how much of a duplication do we want on the plaza that is already on the heritage wall? Are there other symbols that are important to Hmong cultures that add new information?

Kao Lee Thao - I plan to make the migration wall to include Hmong embroidery that tells the migration story.

Linda Vegetation – is it possible to use bamboo? There are some at landscape arboretum

Mai Chong – submitted ideas of plantings/forms

Mai Chong - Here's a video of the Agape Hmong Garden. It's absolutely beautiful and incorporates many Hmong features such as the bamboo water feature. https://fb.watch/atX8Z95_T8/



Carol Brash – I think that Agape is the one that I shared one time but this might be a slightly different video. I know some folks with bamboo in MN bring it in for the winter. (in addition to the one that does grow in MN. I think Bill P had some ideas about plants similar to bamboo, but more MN hardy.

Wrap up:

Next week Donor Wall and Moongate. Will look at function and circulation.

No decision was made regarding the size of the Hmong Plaza.

Emailed Comments:

From: Stuart Knappmiller <stuartknappmiller49@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 10:49 AM

Simply looking at images, I like the enclosure of the A example for the donor wall. A quieting of foot and bike traffic on the shore would be best accomplished by this solid wall.

I love A for the moon bridge. Reminds me of an exciting snowy drive in Wales where I had to find the right speed to reach the top of the bridge with not too much momentum on the slide down, as the roads take a 90* turn once over the stream. I got the rental car sideways and stopped a foot or so from the stone fence once we made it over the top. The next drive I drove to town and crossed the newer bridge, designed for auto traffic.

A would be dangerous in winter. Steps would have to be cleared of ice and snow. Remember the CCC steps on the hill above the boathouse? So, I guess the only real option is the modified slope bottom right ADA bridge.

Sorry to miss other's comments tonight.

Stuart



From: mcfgs@mnchinagarden.org <mcfgs@mnchinagarden.org>

Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 11:20 AM

Donor Wall/East Gate

Primary Function to be:

a permanent Donor list, a Gate into the garden from the East, or are they two separate functions.

Donor recognition space needs to be expandable.

Moon gate is a desirable feature in the garden but would not make a good East Gate (What is general use of moon gates? Seems to open to intimate court yards, not a garden entrance).

Separate Moon Gate from Garden Entrance.

Where would the interpretative garden information go? Maintain Stanchions for this information?

Replace with QR Codes or hand outs or both.

Moon Bridge

The upside: A beautiful addition connecting the Channel Island with the China Garden Island, framing Meditation in a "Moon" shaped view. Connecting pathways on the island itself. Providing a shared view across to the Picnic Pavilion. It would undoubtedly be the site of endless photo opportunities, small events, movies, processions, and who knows what.

Possible downsides: ADA accessibility; this really shouldn't be an issue as there are 2 other bridges that connect to the Channel Island.

Construction on Channel Island; there is no obvious way to get construction equipment or cement to Channel Island though it has been done in the past a least 2 different times. Once to lay a piled footing for the Ice Castle and another time to construct the picnic shelter on Channel Island (a not insubstantial concrete structure on Channel Island). How were they done?

From: Christina Morrison <cdengmorri@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, November 17, 2021 3:22 PM

Donor Wall:

I prefer Master Plan A. I think a permanent donor wall and secondary gate into the Garden from the East would balance the white arch from the West. The Moon Gate separate from East Garden Entrance is also a great idea. The roof tile matching that of the Pavilion roof is very nice. The wall material of stucco is also fine with me. I just hope there will be a proper distance between the Moon Gate and the donor walls.



Donor walls are not typical elements of Chinese gardens, so I think the donor wall in the Garden should really be a natural blended in piece that provides a serene and respectful look to reflect its purposes.

I am not in agreement with the idea of a black granite piece with the donor names being engraved in white. These two colors are quite heavy, giving the impression of a Memorial Wall rather than a Donor Wall. I prefer engraving the donor names in red text on white granite on both sides of the wall.

I think that somewhere on the wall we could have a small area briefly introducing the history of the Garden, but not the elements of the Garden. I also think no Hmong symbols or forms should be incorporated into the wall, as we will already have the Hmong plaza.

As it is hard to predetermine the number of donors, could we possibly consider building a couple of same or similar donor walls in different parts of the Garden for future expansion purposes?

Moon Bridge

The purpose and function of the 2017 Master Plan seems fine to me. However, I would prefer using The Bridge with Steps plan. With the harsh and long Minnesota winter in mind, it makes sense for us to have steps on a bridge to provide safe walking conditions for everyone.

I strongly prefer seeing a brick stone bridge to be pre-constructed and shipped from China, so that we can obtain the maximum authenticity and the quality. In my opinion, a Chinese Moon Bridge is a Chinese Moon Bridge. I do not believe Hmong symbols should be incorporated into the Moon Gate as the Hmong Plaza can provide all the relevant elements.

If ADA access is required, then we would have to provide it in a way to be determined.

I hope you all have a great meeting tonight!

Thanks!

Christina

From: Stuart Knappmiller <stuartknappmiller49@hotmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, December 1, 2021 7:04 AM

Sorry I had a prior event for our last meeting, and I took photos of the optional sites for the plaza and failed to post to the group. I see the solution to the bike issue, which needs to be a priority, based on the safety issues present when I was at the registration table for the Site Dedication.

I don't know where the pavilion landscape bridge is in the Phase II Design image? No idea about it for you.



On the Hmong Plaza. When did the Hmong Advisory Committee determine it needed to be expanded from 50 to 200 people? If it proceeds to be placed where the Feng Shui and Site Dedication happened, then I strongly support less impervious surfaces, including grass. I question the transparency/legitimacy of its expansion at a site designed for 50 people if the 200 requirement was determined prior to the events that lock us in to a larger plan in a compact space.

I'm not an expert on these spaces. We've traveled Cambodia, Laos, Thailand, Vietnam, Philippines and Japan. Some spaces there seem more enclosed - to promote peace and tranquility, so I question the change to transparent/open spaces. How do we create peace and tranquility if the space isn't bounded by the original solid wall with the arched opening? We attended an event at the pavilion while loud distracting drumming (with lovely dancing) was happening on the bridge at the entrance plaza.

I also missed hearing about the not in my language meeting. The site, and now the stones have been less than peaceful as we proceed. Thank heavens Laura was engaged to get the Dakota stone dealt with before the site dedication! I see another email here so will look to see if that has been addressed there.

Again, sorry I missed this meeting. I hope this is useful, but I think my questions needed to be in the meeting, eh?

Thanks for this work.

Stuart

From: Brash, Carol <CBRASH@CSBSJU.EDU>
Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:55 AM
To: Hussong, Brett (CI-StPaul) <brett.hussong@ci.stpaul.mn.us>
Cc: William Zajicek <billzik@gmail.com>
Subject: RE: Regarding the most recent image of the Hmong Plaza

Dear Brett,

I agree with Christina, Linda, and especially Caroline's concerns about the aesthetic impact of a larger venue (I use that word intentionally) at that site. I completely agree that the Hmong plaza should be at the original site, but at the original size (both in terms of footprint and height – I suspect that will be the next point brought up, so we should be ready for this). I do understand the idea of and desire to create a large event space there, but that was not the original intent of that particular site and it does not make sense there for a number of reasons both practical and aesthetic. (I got married in a park and we were limited to 100 people, so I do understand the pain of that limitation in a very personal way. There was also a strict time limit and we had to rent the chairs separately. Our reception was 200, but was at a different site.)



I am still not excited about free-standing walls, but I am coming around. The Huntington has done this, but really embraced and calls attention to the shift rather than trying to disguise it. I am attaching some photos from their website that show the Cloud Forest Terrace – part of their new expansion and event center – that part wasn't complete when I was last there. I also included an image showing the openings – which I do support for our wall/walls. I suspect that this may be the new normal – postmodern treatment of historical elements is acceptable in almost every other kind of design. Is it authentic to traditional designs? Not exactly. Is it authentic to the Chinese experience today? Probably closer.

I am including an example of a geometric design in one of their other walls that is what I had in mind for a possible Hmong embroidery placement. I don't know that the full group would support that idea, but the Hmong advisory seems to push the plaza with the rationale that it isn't a friendship garden without more Hmong. The Chinese advisory group seems to push back against any Hmong elements in other parts of the garden, which although historically correct, may not be the most inclusive way to go. One compromise would be to incorporate some Hmong elements that already are similar to the historically accurate design, so leak windows seems like a such a spot. However, I don't really think that will make either side happy. I would not support representational designs in those windows – when not left open, these are generally abstract designs (like the crackled ice pattern) or possibly highly stylized floral shapes, so the embroidery patterns best fit this – but only if the others do.

With the bridge, I do think that the round shape completed by the reflection is the key. I leave the stair decision to the neighborhood folks who will most regularly use it. Again, I recommend no representational designs on the bridge itself. We didn't discuss color – what color is the path to the bridge? The bridge should stand out from the surroundings somewhat, but there should be some visual connections. The 2017 rendering shows a light grey path all over with the bridges in white and the white columns and balustrade of the pavilion. This stands out in the background of greenery and yellowish stones. The various renderings show slightly different balustrades for each, so imagining each as its own site and yet connected enough for the overviews of the garden.

Still hoping for actual water in the stream beds.

I will be coming from class tomorrow – they are giving presentations, so that means I might be early or I might be late, depending on how prepared they are and if technology cooperates with us.

Have a great day! See you tomorrow.

Peace,

Carol Brash, PhD

From: Caroline Van <carolinevan@gmail.com>

Sent: Monday, December 6, 2021 10:34 PM

To: Hussong, Brett (CI-StPaul) <brett.hussong@ci.stpaul.mn.us>



Cc: Bill Zajicek <mcfgs@mnchinagarden.org>; Linda Mealey-Lohmann <Linda.chinagarden@comcast.net>; Chen Zhou <realtorchen@hotmail.com>; Christina Morrison <cdengmorri@yahoo.com>; Carol Brash <cbrash@csbsju.edu>; Jijun He <Hejijun@hotmail.com>; Ping Wang <pwang118@gmail.com>; Haoyu Zhao <Haoyu.h.zhao@gmail.com>; Caroline Van <carolinevan@gmail.com>; Ali Van <alzvan@gmail.com>

Subject: Considerations for Plaza Design and Location

Dear Brett,

I hope that this note finds you well. Glad that we are moving forward with Plaza discussions to satisfy all constituencies.

I took a look at the photo of a redesigned Plaza that was submitted by the Hmong Advisory committee. I feel that this type of design does not appear to be a structure in harmony with a contemplative and serene friendship garden; nor does it gently draw one's eye and body towards the majestic Pavilion around the bend of trees and rising above the lake. I respect the way in which one is meant to subtly experience such sensibilities -- sensibilities that were created with careful consideration of Chinese feng shui principles.

Furthermore, this Plaza rendition depicts a structure that might be more suitably designed for a different space such as a park bandstand, or a structure temporarily set up in a shopping mall for a performance, but which may not stand beautifully along the pathway in the Garden. Also, on most days, it would look rather out of place, front and center, imposing on the natural surroundings, and sitting largely as an empty event space.

I understand our desire to have a gathering place for at least 200 people, and feel that our goal should be to make that space attractive to many Minnesotans and Hmong to consider as an event venue. Personally, if I were to stage a big 200-person private event at the Garden, I would find it odd and undesirable to hold a ceremony right on the main sidewalk-thoroughfare to the Xiang Jiang Pavilion.

Can we pursue the possibilities offered by the other sites, which can also be formally "blessed?"

Sincerely,

Caroline

From: Christina Morrison <cdengmorri@yahoo.com>

Sent: Sunday, December 5, 2021 1:22 PM

Subject: Regarding the most recent image of the Hmong Plaza

Hi Brett,



After carefully reviewing the most recent image of the Hmong Plaza you sent to us, I wish to reinforce my concerns here.

I strongly believe the final construction of the Hmong Plaza should reflect the opinions and concerns of the majority at the first two DAC meetings, which is to build the Hmong Plaza at its current location, but to maintain the 40-person capacity.

The most recent image of the Hmong Plaza suggests a much larger and more intrusive structure, not in line with the original plan. I sincerely hope we can maintain the serene and reflective atmosphere around the majestic Pavilion which is the focal point of the Garden, and also a symbol of the friendship between the two cities.

I hope we can work with the Hmong community to solve the problem of expanding the Plaza to accommodate 200 people.

We need to eliminate all future surprises and address this issue as soon as possible. As volunteers, our time spent on this DAC is precious as well.

Thank you for your consideration.

Christina

From: Haoyu Zhao <haoyu.h.zhao@gmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, December 5, 2021 2:25 PM

Subject: Fwd: China Garden questions for Hunan Jianke

Hello Brett,

After reading the thread I completely agree with what Linda has mentioned.

Firstly we, the DAC as a whole group, didn't have a chance to review and discuss the Hmong Plaza image that is about to be sent to Hunan Jianke, which I believe is not the best strategy for an effective conversation.

Second, while we all agree a flexible space could be the final solution, the Chinese DAC's emphasis on how a 200-people plaza will be potentially inappropriate for the garden is not expressively captured in the document.

I apologize in advance if there is miscommunication. But it seems to me that the priority has been shifted to having a Hmong plaza, instead of having a garden with a Hmong cultural space. Another concern I would say here is that while the actual designer is Hunan Jianke, we are not very restrained from giving actual design schemes. With the fact that the majority of the DAC are not design professionals, I don't think including the image in the beginning will be the most ideal way of communication.

To conclude, I ask for another round of refinement before sending the document to Hunan Jianke, and I sincerely hope to be included in the further email thread.



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA

DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION
MIKE HAHM, CPRP, DIRECTOR

City Hall Annex
25 West 4th Street, Suite 400
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Tel: 651-266-6400

Thank you,

Haoyu

From: Jijun He <hejjun@hotmail.com>

Sent: Sunday, December 5, 2021 9:31 AM

To: Ping Wang <pwang118@gmail.com>; Hussong, Brett (CI-StPaul) <brett.hussong@ci.stpaul.mn.us>

Cc: Christina Morrison <cdengmorri@yahoo.com>

Subject: Re: China Garden questions for Hunan Jianke

Hi Brett,

Sorry for the late reply and thank you for organizing the stuff.

There was a lot of discussion about the size and location of the Hmong plaza. The majority thought that expanding the capacity to 200 would adversely impact the overall design of the garden especially if keeping it in the current location. The opinions of the majority should be reflected in the document.

Regards,

Jijun He (John)

(952) 288-8371