

WECA Planning & Zoning Committee Meeting

Wednesday, May 27, 7 pm

Butterworth Hall

on the campus of the former Hartford College for Women

1265 Asylum Avenue

(across Asylum from the Goodwin Estates and Woodside Circle)

We will receive a presentation by CREC (Capitol Region Education Council) for future use of the campus as a magnet high school and magnet early childhood school. Please note, there will be no drawings, no plans – this meeting is for discussion purposes only at this point. CREC wants feedback from the neighborhood.

CREC expects that the state will fund a magnet high school that focuses on training for the medical professions and teacher preparation. CREC wants to run this school and place it on the HCW campus, which it would buy from the University of Hartford. The goal is to fully renovate the campus so it looks better than it has in decades. It would house this high school for 400 students and the early childhood magnet school that already is on the campus with 120 pre-schoolers attending. Tyler Smith is the architect for the renovations, which would be funded by the state. He said plans are preliminary but he did say that he expects the “modernistic” townhouses that don’t do anything for the site would be knocked down. The historic buildings would be preserved and renovated. There would be new low-rise construction behind the current buildings to provide additional classroom space.

CREC expects to open this new high school in the fall in rented space. It expects to know by summer 2010 whether the state actually will fund development of this new school.

Renovations would take two years and the school would open on the campus in fall 2012. The portable trailers will be removed and there will be no parking structure built or expansion of the parking currently at the campus. The high school would be run in collaboration with St. Francis Hospital and the University of Hartford . It is part of the effort to comply with the goals of the Sheff settlement to increase integration in the Hartford schools.

Parking for students that are not bused would be off-site and they would be shuttled to the school. Two options for parking are the state-owned property at 61 Woodland Street and the University of Hartford main campus.

All are invited to attend and participate in the discussion.