

# Land Use Committee

## Description

The Land Use Committee of Green Mountain College is a standing committee appointed by the Provost that meets as needed to evaluate proposals for changes in land use or land policy within a framework provided by the mission of the college and long range campus planning documents. The committee reviews and makes recommendations on proposals affecting the 155 acre main campus grounds. All significant changes to campus lands or land use policy must be routed through the Land Use Committee, including changes in land use, maintenance, landscaping, and waste disposal, and new structures, landscape designs, plantings, signs, and art. To evaluate any proposal, the committee collects relevant data, and contacts and invites input from affected parties and various interest groups on campus. The committee reports to the Provost.

## Procedure for Approval of Land Use Proposals

### Initiation

- Proposal with necessary supporting materials is submitted to the Land Use Committee. In Spring 2009, the committee meets as needed on Thursdays at 11 a.m.
- The committee makes copies of the proposal available to its members and other interested parties

### Evaluation

- The committee collects relevant data, invites comment from affected parties, and evaluates proposals in the framework of the college mission and existing land use policy. The following interest groups must be informed and consulted when appropriate:
  - Faculty - via faculty representatives, at meetings
  - Administration – grounds (CFO), academic affairs (Provost)
  - Staff - maintenance, grounds, security
  - Students - clubs, dorms, majors, classes, sports, environmentally active groups
  - Greater Community - representatives from town
- The proposal is evaluated based on
  - fit with the college's mission and existing land use plans and policy
  - values gained and lost by the proposal
  - support by and conflict with affected parties
  - support by and conflict with college programs
  - budget which delimits
    - short-term costs and benefits (provided by the initial proposal or comments addressed afterward)
    - long-term costs and benefits (maintenance, permanence)

### Recommendation takes one of the following routes

- The committee approves proposal and forwards it to the Provost, who will make a recommendation and take it to the President's cabinet for final approval, or, where necessary to the board of trustees. An expedited process is available for evidently non-controversial proposals such as temporary art displays, whereby the Land Use Committee sends approval directly to the initiator and copies its action to the Provost.
- The committee recommends changes to the proposal to the initiator(s).
- The committee dismisses the proposal, providing its rationale to the initiator and Provost.

### Approval by the President's Cabinet

Approval by the Board of Trustees if necessary (for example real estate sale or purchase).