

**Approved at October 11, 2007 Conservation Commission Meeting**

**DURHAM CONSERVATION COMMISSION  
Minutes to Special Meeting  
September 26, 2007  
Roselawn Farm**

**Members present:**

Regular – Cynthia Belowski, Stephen Roberts, George Thomas

Alternates – Dwight Baldwin, Peter Smith

**Excused absence:**

Regular members – Beryl Harper, Jim Hellen, Duane Hyde, Julian Smith

**Unexcused Absence:**

Alternate – Robin Vranicar

**Presenter:** Dea Brickner-Woods, Land Protection Working Group

Beginning at 4:00 p.m. the Durham Conservation Commission joined the Town Council on a site walk of the Roselawn Farm. Roselawn Farm has 49 acres in Durham and 19 acres in Madbury that have been proposed for conservation.

At 5:30 p.m., immediately following the site walk, Cynthia Belowski called the special meeting to order and stated that, due to the absence of four regular members, Dwight Baldwin and Peter Smith would be acting as regular members.

Dea Brickner Woods, acting on behalf of the Land Protection Working Group, explained that to secure Farm and Ranchland Protection Program (FRPP) funding a few things have to happen by the end of October. They include: a signed Purchase and Sales agreement; a letter of commitment from both Madbury and Durham for their share of the conservation easement costs; and a completed full Yellow Book appraisal report. Dea explained that the initial summary appraisal was paid for by a neighborhood group interested in seeing the land conserved, and Madbury paid \$2500 to have the FRPP application prepared. Dea requested up to \$2,000 from the Durham Conservation Commission to have the full Yellow Book appraisal prepared. Arrangements for the appraisal will be handled by Strafford Rivers Conservancy (SRC), the easement holder. SRC will bill Durham.

Dea explained that she expects the total transaction cost support from both towns to be approximately \$7,000, but none of the additional expenses will be incurred until we are assured of FRPP funding. Additional expenses will include surveying, SRC staff time, stewardship fee and baseline documentation.

Stephen Roberts made a motion to appropriate up to \$2,000 from the Conservation Account to be paid to Strafford Rivers Conservancy for a full Yellow Book appraisal report for the Roselawn Farm property. This was seconded by George Thomas and approved unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:55 p.m.