

SELECT COMMITTEE ON OPEN SPACE ACQUISITION (SCOSA)

Special Meeting

5:30 PM - March 10, 2021

ZOOM Meeting

Attending Temporary Co-chairs Richard Shanahan, Joan Merrick; committee members Peter Bassermann, Victor Cassella, Dan Fitzgerald (new Conservation Commission representative), Judith Miller, Marci Palluzzi; Town Planner Harry Smith; members of the public Bill Horne, Evan Breining and 3 anonymous.

Richard Shanahan called the meeting to order at 5:33pm. This special meeting has been called to alert committee members to several properties which are or may become active and of possible interest to the Town of Branford.

723 Leetes Island Rd. On market for \$2.0 million, 19.6 acres, currently farmland, some woods, marsh, owned by James Medlyn. Land trust trails and Branford Trail cross, potential path of proposed Connecticut Greenway. Some low elevation (marsh advancement?), potential continued farmland. Development potential uncertain. Branford Land Trust taking lead on this and in negotiations, may ask town for help with funding

00 Leetes Island Rd. On market for \$289,000. 4.3 acres, interior lot with no road access west of 723, currently undeveloped marsh, some upland, owned by Ahlberg family. Branford Trail crosses, possible kayak launch. Branford Land Trust talking with seller. Development potential uncertain, but doubtful.

Kinney. Two interior lots that project into Supply Ponds Park, not currently active, but has been in discussions with town, woods, steep slopes, owned by Mike Kinney. One of Park trails crosses, potential location of segment of Branford Trail. Possible development potential.

RWA (Regional Water Authority): 30 acres, woods, Brushy Plain Rd, adjacent to Lidyhites Pond, headwaters of Pisgah Brook. Development would impact water quality and viewscape. Development potential high. RWA announced future sale in 2010, and will give towns and state first options. . SCOSA toured in 2010. We are hearing it may come up soon.

Conservation Commission brought two properties to Committee's attention.

251 N. Main St, 9.7 acres, woods and stone outcroppings along Route 1 close to town center. Development would affect viewscape and probably houses behind. No contact with owner

245 E. Main St. edge of Branford River, upland and tidal wetland, close to town center and high school on Route 1. Harry Smith reports multifamily housing may have been recently permitted.