



City of New Bedford
IN COMMITTEE

June 14, 2018

The Honorable City Council
133 William Street
New Bedford, MA 02740

Dear Honorable Members of the City Council:

The Committee on Appointments & Briefings at a Meeting held on Wednesday, May 23, 2018, held a PUBLIC HEARING on a COMMUNICATION/DEMOLITION, New Bedford Historical Commission, to City Council, re: BUILDING DEMOLITION REVIEW OF 2914 ACUSHNET AVENUE, (MAP 130D, LOT 248) a Circa late nineteenth century two-story residence – advising that “the structure is historically significant due to its association with members of the Spooner family who settled in this location from Plymouth in 1660, eight years after the “Old Dartmouth” land mass was purchased from Wamsutta in 1652, the Spooners were a well respected farming family whose vast land holdings were primarily located in the subject area, north of Acushnet Village; the residential structure, although associated with the Spooner family, has been altered with the application of vinyl siding and its original windows replaced; the property lack integrity, as it no longer possesses its historic qualities of setting and feeling, the land surrounding the subject parcel is no longer used for agricultural purposes and due to its location bordered by commercial development and its current Mixed-Use Business Zoning; it is no longer attractive as a residential use, in light of these finding, the New Bedford Historical Commission has determined that the structure at 2914 Acushnet Avenue is historically significant, but not a preferably preserved historic structure.” (Ref’d 4/12/18) (Advertised in The Standard-Times on Wednesday, May 9, 2018.)

On motion by Councillor Lopes and seconded by Councillor Carney, the Committee VOTED: To recommend to the City Council to Grant the DEMOLITION of 2914 ACUSHNET AVENUE, (MAP 130D, LOT 248). This motion passed on a Roll Call Vote of Yeas 9, Nays 1, with Councillor Morad opposed.

IN COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS &
BRIEFINGS

Debora Coelho

Councillor Debora Coelho, Chairperson

DC: dmb



City of New Bedford

HISTORICAL COMMISSION

133 William Street, New Bedford, Massachusetts 02740

Telephone: (508) 979.1488

JONATHAN F. MITCHELL
MAYOR

MEMORANDUM

TO: New Bedford City Council
FROM: New Bedford Historical Commission
DATE: April 3, 2018
RE: **BUILDING DEMOLITION REVIEW**
2914 Acushnet Avenue (Map 130D Lot 248)
Circa late 19th century two storey residence

CITY CLERK
2018 APR -9 P 2:55
CITY CLERKS OFFICE
NEW BEDFORD, MA

In accordance with the requirements of the New Bedford City Code, Article XI, Section 2-157 Demolition of Buildings, the New Bedford Historical Commission [NBHC] has examined the structure located at the above-captioned site in order to determine its historical significance and whether it is in the public interest to preserve such structure.

The NBHC reviewed the application for demolition at its April 2, 2018 meeting, and hereby forwards its findings and recommendation in this matter to the New Bedford City Council:

- The structure is historically significant due to its association with members of the Spooner family who settled in this location from Plymouth in 1660, eight years after the "Old Dartmouth" land mass was purchased from Wamsutta in 1652. The Spooners were a well respected farming family whose vast land holdings were primarily located in the subject area, north of Acushnet Village.
- The residential structure, although associated with the Spooner family, has been altered with the application of vinyl siding and its original windows replaced.
- The property lacks in integrity, as it no longer possesses its historic qualities of setting and feeling. The land surrounding the subject parcel is no longer used for agricultural purposes and due to its location bordered by commercial development and its current Mixed Use Business Zoning; it is no longer attractive as a residential use.

In light of these findings, the New Bedford Historical Commission has determined that the structure at 2914 Acushnet Avenue is historically significant, but not a preferably preserved historic structure.

cc. Farland Corp., Inc., Applicant
Neil and Erica Meunier, Property Owners
Department of Inspectional Services
Mayor's Office