

HALSEY HALL CHAPTER OF SABR

Board of Directors Minutes

April 1, 2001

At the residence of Joe O'Connell at 5:00 p.m.

Board Members present: Bob Tholkes, Rich Arpi, Joe O'Connell, Jim Wyman, Cary Smith, and Dan Levitt. Also present was Stew Thornley.

Absent: Board member Kevin Hennessy.

Treasurer's Report: Kevin called in with a report of 72 members and \$ 696.07 in the treasury.

On Deck Circle: Cary has called a television station (?) about getting credentials for producing a cable-access television show. He is waiting to hear back. The show should be a go for later in the spring or in the summer.

Holy Cow Newsletter: Stew reports that the April issue is ready to go and should be in member's mailboxes shortly. Bob Tholkes reported that *The Holy Cow Extra* will be mailed at the end of April. Columnists will be members from outside Minnesota, such as John Gregory, R. J. Lesch of Des Moines, Iowa (?), etc. An insert listing the Quicksteps schedule for 2001 will also be part of this issue of *The Holy Cow Extra*. Stew announced that membership renewals will appear in the *Holy Cow* in coming issues, well before the due date of July 1.

Quicksteps Vintage Baseball Team: General Manager and team magnate Bob Tholkes reported that the schedule for the season, May through August is almost set in stone. Games for later in the season (mainly September) are still up in the air. Bob, Rich, and Jim have tried out a new ball that is harder than past baseballs used by the team. It appears this ball, which is slightly larger than regulation (10 1/2 inches in circumference), will hold up well in games and will carry much farther than past baseballs. Bob has ordered a supply of these new baseballs for match play in 2001 from the Canal Fulton Mules of Ohio.

Lexington Park plaque: Stew announced that a new store is being built on the site of old Lexington Park. The plaque that the Chapter raised funds for and installed several years ago has been removed. Stew has contacted the new owner, Home Depot, and has been assured that the plaque will be remounted on the new store wall sometime this summer. The board expressed thanks to Stew for staying on top of this situation and hoped that Home Depot will honor its commitment. It was urged that Stew continue to monitor this situation until it has been resolved.

Hot Stove Saturday Breakfasts: The next meeting is set for April 7th at the usual Baker's Square on Xerxes and 66th in Minneapolis. A tour of Lakewood Cemetery is planned afterwards, if the ground is dry enough. Otherwise it will have to be postponed until August. The June meeting will feature a visit to the Bus Rodeo, located near the State Fair Grounds.

Spring Regional Meeting: Everything is set for the April 28th meeting at the Methodist Church, near Central Avenue and Gould Street in Columbia Heights. Bert Blyleven is the featured guest (ca. 1:00 p.m.) so research presentations featuring Ray Luurs (Bert Blyleven), Kevin Hennessy (clutch pitching), Stew Thornley (his Cuba trip), Bob Kapla (probability of pitching a no-hitter). Kevin will arrange the cold-cuts, etc. for lunch, Bob will arrange for coffee and soda pop, Joe doughnuts for morning break, and Dan will conduct his usual fine trivia quiz. There was some discussion about getting tickets when/if some of our new members (who use wheel-chairs) would like to attend regional functions and games. Everybody was relieved when it was confirmed that the Methodist Church has wheel-chair accessible restrooms on the ground floor as well as an elevator access to that floor. It was decided that communication with the members who use wheel-chairs about their wishes in getting tickets for the Twins game and other chapter events (Stew told the board that several of the members would attend Twins games only if they could sit with the group) would be the best course of action. The Board agreed that all three of the sanctioned chapter events per year (two regionals and the winter hot stove meeting) must be in facilities that are wheel chair accessible. This most likely will mean a change from the residence of Dr. Seth Hawkins for the Hot Stove meeting, if the wheel-chair folks would like to attend. The board felt that communication with the members who use wheel chairs is essential if they are to feel welcome and part of the group but not feel like they are a burden at the same time.

History Day: Rich and Stew will represent the Halsey Hall Chapter at the Minnesota state competition in National History Day at the University of Minnesota on May 5th. Rich and Stew will present students who had a "baseball topic" with a one-year SABR national membership and a Halsey Hall membership, as well as some extra SABR publications. Hopefully this program will result in some younger members who will be life-long members of SABR.

New Board Elections: Four new members will be elected at the regional meeting to replace Joe, Bob, Jim and Cary. Bob mentioned if there were any ideas about possible candidates and there was no response.

Next Meeting: June 3rd, 5:00 p.m. at Kevin Hennessy's home at 608 Grand Avenue, St. Paul.