

SABR Halsey Hall Fall Chapter Meeting Minutes
November 18, 2023 at Faith Mennonite Church

Board Members present: Rich Arpi, Bob Tholkes, Daniel Dorff, Jerry Janzen, John Buckeye, Howard Luloff

- 1) Meeting called to order at 12:26 pm by President Rich Arpi
- 2) Review spring chapter meeting minutes - Copies of the minutes from the spring chapter meeting were distributed. Minutes approved unanimously with no changes.
- 3) Treasury report – Jerry Janzen - Jerry reported that we have \$1,173.79 in our checking account as of November 17th, 2023.
- 4) Membership report – Stew Thornley and John Buckeye, co-chairs - Since the April 15, 2023 Halsey Hall Chapter meeting, 11 members have joined the chapter. Since June 1, the beginning of the SABR fiscal year reporting period, eight new members have joined. We had 146 members at the beginning of the reporting period and now have 173.
- 5) Social Media report – Bob Komoroski - Our Facebook group has 181 members and all members can post in the group. Follow the group for notification of events.
- 6) Newsletter report – Stew’s annual term as newsletter editor ends December 31, 2023. He is willing to accept another term if appointed by the board at its December board meeting.
- 7) Webmaster report - skipped
- 8) Research Committee report – Co-chairs Gene Gomes and Dave Lande - Gene reported that there have been Zoom meetings every month since the last chapter meeting. The committee is involved with planning the chapter meetings and the presentations that are given. There is also a trivia quiz each month at the committee meeting, in fact there have now been 22 consecutive meetings with a trivia quiz. The committee encourages members to do research such as game stories and bios and is willing to offer people help in their research endeavors.
- 9) Events report – Howard Luloff reported there was a town ball game in Miesville in July in which the group ate across the street at King’s Place Bar and Grill beforehand. With the expanding town ball interest amongst our members he is looking to expand the number of town ball games our chapter attends to 2 or 3 games for 2024. There are several locations not too far away from the metro and a large number of games to choose from. 2024 is also the 100 year anniversary of the State Tournament. If you have town ball ideas contact Howard.

There is a SABR day event in the works. The idea would be to have a joint chapter meeting with Wisconsin, Chicago and Iowa in which Steve Gietschier would talk about his book “Baseball: The Turbulent Midcentury Years.”

Brenda spoke about a Women in Baseball Panel. She mentioned there may be a panel at the SABR convention in August but that this could be a special event taking place at a library. She mentioned there are many women who work for the Twins. The Halsey Hall chapter could be promoted at the panel and it may get more women involved in our chapter. She mentioned the idea of inviting season ticket holders.

10) Book Club - The next book club meeting is December 9. Whitey Herzog's book "You're Missin a Great Game" will be discussed.

11) MVP Chapter Committee - There was a motion put forth by Rich and seconded by several people which read, "In 2023, the Halsey Hall Chapter was recognized with SABR MVP Status at the SABR convention in Chicago. It became the first chapter to achieve this distinction and the only one recognized at the time. It is the objective of the chapter to achieve this status every year. The mission of the MVP Chapter Committee is to track the chapter's achievements and make sure they are properly recorded. The committee will work with the chapter and board of directors to ensure that all requirements are met and to make suggestions on events that are worthwhile in addition to meeting MVP status requirements." The motion passed. Gene Gomes is on the committee and asked for volunteers to collaborate with. Rich offered to be on the committee. Gene further stated that part of the work is tracking the research projects and community activities the chapter participates in and ensuring that the chapter is offering benefits to its members and resources for those chapter members conducting research.

12) Old Business - Rich mentioned that SABR 52 will be here in Minneapolis August 7-11, 2024. Jessica Smyth with SABR is seeking volunteers. Please let her know if you're willing to volunteer. We will need help with packing goodie bags, being timers at research presentations, greeting folks, and other activities.

Mike Hauptert is editing the National Pastime. He has received many proposals and will be contacting people with the go ahead or not on their proposals for the National Pastime, the word limit for the articles, and any deadlines.

13) New business:

Elect a board replacement for David Karpinski - Ed Edmonds was nominated by Rich and Joe O seconded. No other nominations were made. Motion approved.

Plaque for St. Paul downtown pillbox ballpark site - Stew Thornley reported on this. The Halsey Hall Chapter is working with the state of Minnesota to get a historical marker installed on state property that was once the site of St. Paul's Downtown Ball Park, also known as the Pillbox. The ball park was used by the St. Paul Saints of the American Association from 1903 to 1909 and by the St. Paul Colored Gophers until 1910. In 1909, the Gophers defeated the Chicago Leland Giants in this ballpark for the "World's Colored Championship." The ballpark is nicknamed because of its small dimensions and was located on 12th Street between Minnesota and Roberts avenues. With a view from southeast to northwest, patrons had the scenic backdrop of

the state capitol, its rotunda under construction for some of those years. The chapter has worked in the past to get plaques erected on the sites of Lexington Park in St. Paul and Nicollet Park in Minneapolis. Stew stated that he has a meeting with the state on Tuesday to discuss this. He stated that SABR may have a grant program that will help fund the project. He's not worried about funds. Motion to endorse this project was approved.

Bio Project for 1987 & 1991 Twins - The chapter is also working with the SABR BioProject to get more biographies about Minnesota Twins. As a starting point, John Gregory and Thornley are encouraging chapter members to get involved in the project and consider writing about members of the 1987 and/or 1991 world champion teams. These players from those teams are awaiting a write-up:

Paul Abbott, Rick Aguilera, Allan Anderson, Keith Atherton, Willie Banks, Billy Beane, Jeff Bittiger, Jarvis Brown, Randy Bush, Sal Butera, Larry Casian, Carmelo Castillo, Mark Davidson, Tom Edens, Scott Erickson, George Frazier, Greg Gagne, Dan Gladden, Mark Guthrie, Brian Harper, Joe Klink, Gene Larkin, Scott Leius, Steve Lombardozzi, Shane Mack, Pedro Munoz, Denny Neagle, Al Newman, Joe Niekro, Tom Nieto, Junior Ortiz, Mike Pagliarulo, Chris Pittaro, Mark Portugal, Mark Salas, Dan Schatzeder, Roy Smalley III, Roy Smith, Les Straker, Gary Wayne, Lenny Webster, and David West.

In addition, coaches, executives, and broadcasters could be written, including Dick Bremer, Andy MacPhail, Carl Pohlad, Rick Renick, Terry Ryan, Rick Stelmazek, Dick Such,

Many members of the chapter have written for the BioProject and are available for help and mentoring. Check out the BioProject website. Those interested in writing about a person should send a message to bioassign@sabr.org to reserve the player (and make sure that the player has not already been reserved). Those wanting to learn more can write to John, ashburyjohn1@gmail.com, or Thornley, stew@stewthornley.net.

Next board meeting is December 10 at 7pm via Zoom

Rich moved to adjourn the meeting and several seconded. Meeting adjourned at 12:54 pm.