

SABR Halsey Hall Board Meeting Minutes  
December 10, 2023 – Zoom Meeting

Board Members present: Rich Arpi, Daniel Dorff, John Buckeye, Howard Luloff, Ed Edmonds, Jerry Janzen

Also in attendance: Bob Komoroski, Stew Thornley

Meeting called to order at 7:32 pm by President Rich Arpi

Meeting Agenda

1. Review October 22 Meeting Minutes

Rich moved to accept the minutes and John seconded. Minutes approved with no changes.

2. Treasurer's Report - Jerome Janzen

Our balance is \$1610.10. We received \$350 for expenses. Jerry is sending in the year end report this week.

3. Membership Report – Stew and John

Three new members since the October 22 board meeting: Douglas Byers, André Lanoue, and Gregg Nelson. Ten new members since the beginning of the fiscal reporting period June 1, 2023: Sparky Seals, Kyle McNary, Michael Merlino, Daniel Dullum, Jeffrey Kummer, Jacob Sayward, Bryan Herr, Douglas Byers, André Lanoue, and Gregg Nelson. As of December 5, 2023, the number of SABR members with the Halsey Hall Chapter as their primary chapter is 176.

4. Newsletter Report - Stew

Rich moved to nominate Stew as newsletter editor. Ed seconded. Motion passed.

5. Book Club Report - Rich

The book club met and went well. The next book club meeting is February 10th with "Lou" by Lou Piniella being discussed.

6. Social Media Report – Bob K.

The Facebook group has added 12 new members and is now approaching 300 in total.

Stew asked Bob if he can promote signing up for membership, joining SABR, this month to the folks in the Facebook group as rates go up January 1st. Bob said he can do that. There was discussion about how to sign up for membership and after several people searched SABR's website it was found under the Community section. Thoughts were that that doesn't make intuitive sense and isn't where people would look to join SABR. It was stated that the membership co-chairs will communicate with SABR about making it more intuitive to figure out how to join.

7. Webmaster Report

Rich nominated John Gregory to continue as Webmaster. John seconded. Motion passed. Stew said John Gregory has said he would do it.

## 8. MVP Committee Report - Gene

Gene emailed the following:

1. The newly-minted **MVP Chapter Committee** has not held any formal meetings, but Gene has:

a. reviewed last year's Chapter Annual Report which has all chapter activities from June 2022 - May 2023. The MVP Committee will use this as a guide for next year. Stew is on the committee.

b. reviewed the SABR Chapter Standards and Requirements (available at [SABR.org](http://SABR.org)).

2. Three items that need our attention to maintain MVP Status:

a. an official SABR Day event. Bob Kormoroski has initiated the process of scheduling of a Zoom event featuring an author. He's also inviting other Midwest chapters to join in.

b. from the Chapter Standards: "conduct programming of an on-going or one-time event with a local organization which creates member and regional benefit."

Last year we conducted an event at Brookdale Library featuring Bud Fowler and collaborated with the library to create a baseball memorabilia and book display. Our chapter needs to look into a community-type event like we did last year.

c. Membership goals and recruitment. The MVP Committee will collaborate with Stew for the current numbers. We need to recruit and follow up on potential new members who appear at our meetings or Zoom meetings. SABR dues are going up in 2024, so new members who join in December can avoid the dues increase.

Discussion regarding the SABR day event took place: January 31st there is an author event featuring Steve Gietschier. The time is set for 7pm over Zoom. Info will be sent to Halsey Hall members. There was discussion about if other chapters would be involved. An email was sent out to other chapters but there was no response. The plan is to continue as a Halsey Hall event. It was mentioned that this event has to go on the SABR meeting calendar. Jacob Pomrenke will be informed of the event and a request to use SABR's Zoom account can be made. Stew may be unavailable this day so Dave Lande was recommended to host. Stew will get this event in the newsletter.

## 9. Research Committee Report - Gene

Gene emailed the following:

The **Research Committee report** will note that we had a Zoom meeting each month averaging 12-13 attendees each time. We approved four presentations and a guest speaker for the Fall Meeting, and developed some improved microphone usage.

We'll have our next meeting Monday night Dec. 11.

Rich mentioned that the committee will meet tomorrow, there's about a dozen members that come and there's trivia.

## 10. Events report – Howard

Andre, our guest speaker from our fall chapter meeting, joined SABR. Howard mentioned that trivia took place at the meeting with collaboration between he and Gene. Howard noted that May 18th at the church has been reserved for our spring chapter meeting.

Discussion then turned to the meeting location with input sought from people in this board meeting. [There had been previous discussion through emails regarding meeting location ideas. Many members investigated various locations for future meetings and reported through email their findings]. In light of those findings, Rich stated he prefers to stay at the church for May.

Howard mentioned he prefers to stay at the church as it's a central location. Rich noted from the emails that libraries don't allow people to reserve rooms until 2 or 3 months out from the meeting date. Stew stated that after looking into other options that libraries don't offer an advantage and don't alleviate our concerns. The sound system at the church has been difficult and libraries don't offer a sound system. Also libraries can't be accessed until 9am. He also referred to a location that would cost \$325 and that that location also wouldn't alleviate our concerns. It was noted that at a cost of \$325 we would need to raise our meeting rate, which for some people would work and for some it may not. Stew stated we do need a different computer to use as his is old, slow and unreliable. Rich stated he can probably make his computer available for the spring meeting. There was more discussion about difficulties faced at this past fall meeting and Rich mentioned that the research committee has made a checklist to help alleviate some of those concerns. Stew did say that he is willing to have people come to him with concerns during the meeting as opposed to Jerry as Jerry has so much to do already.

Rich moved to have the spring meeting at the church. Daniel seconded. Motion passed.

Howard stated further that the use of the portable mics at the fall meeting went well. It was noted that the main unit ran out of power. The suggestion was made to keep the unit plugged in when not using it. It was also mentioned the need to have extra batteries on hand for the mics.

#### 11. Old Business

SABR 52 - Stew mentioned that Scott Bush has set up a Zoom meeting for December 19th with the Twins to talk further about what help the Twins can be in the convention. Stew is invited and will attend this meeting. At this point Derek Falvey is confirmed. There will be discussion about a player panel. The Twins aren't sure yet if that will be their HOF weekend. There was mention of the Twins helping ask players to be on the panel. There was also discussion of hosting events at Target Field but that SABR would have to pay for use of their space and SABR's already paying for the hotel.

Regarding the National Pastime, authors will be informed December 15th if they are selected as contributors for the publication. They will be given the length and deadline requirements that day as well.

#### 12. New Business Items

Twins Fest was discussed. The question was asked if we will participate and if it's worth doing so. The Twins Fest calendar was discussed. Rich is going to ask Doug Skipper if he wants to coordinate it again. We'll go from there.

#### 13. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will be February 4 at 7pm

#### 14. Adjourn

Rich moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:28 pm. Howard seconded. Motion passed.