

Halsey Hall Research Committee Dec. 11, 2023 Minutes

Attendees: (12) Stew (Zoom host), Art Mugalian, Bob Kormoroski, Gene Gomes, Rich Arpi, Ed Edmonds, Dan Levitt, John Buckeye, Darryl Sannes, Brenda Himrich, Daniel Dorff, Doug Skipper

1. Pre-meeting talk: Stew discussed a Bill Butler story and an Andy MacPhail story, and Gophers' baseball when he was a batboy for the Gophers. Art discussed pinch-hit records of Vic Davallio.
2. Reviewed and approved the Nov. 13 minutes.
3. Fall Chapter Meeting review

Art suggested shortening the breaks between presentations to 10 minutes, but the consensus is to leave it at 15 minutes to allow for computer set-up, socializing, snacks, perusing books table, bathroom breaks, etc.

Gene suggested working on the Guest Speaker further in advance, since the last two meetings had us scrambling with two weeks to go each time.

The two-microphone set up worked great for audience questions. The microphone amp went off a couple times during the meeting; it was thought that it could be left plugged in and not just run on battery, but Art said he would bring an A/C adapter next meeting in order to plug it in.

More people arrived earlier this time to help set up. Gene mentioned that since the Trivia game only took about 35 minutes, the meeting wrapped up well before 3 pm. Previously, last year some said that meetings lasting past 3:30 or 4 pm were too long. Ending things before 3 pm makes it easier for more to stay for Trivia and help clean up. Trivia was well-attended with more than twenty participants.

The consensus is that the meetings should be advertised to end at 3 pm.
4. Spring Meeting date is set for May 18, 2024.

The Church is booked up on the two dates in April that we wanted. The committee had email discussions recently about looking into other venues for the Chapter Meetings. Libraries don't open till 9 am and other venues charge high rental fees of \$325. The consensus is to remain at the church. Gene recommended to reserve the Faith Mennonite Church for our meetings further in advance, which we didn't do for the 2024 Spring Meeting. The chapter's projector is being held by Dave Lande.
5. SABR Day planning
 - a. We lined up an additional SABR Day event in January. Bob reported that he has set up Wednesday Jan. 31, 7 pm for a Zoom meeting with guest author Steve Gietschier, former Sporting News archivist. His book is 'Baseball: The Turbulent Midcentury Years, a finalist for the 2023 Casey Award. Bob and Gene have invited other chapters to join us for the meeting. It will be on the SABR.org events schedule.
 - b. Doug will contact the Twins about Halsey Hall Chapter at Twinsfest in 2024.
6. SABR 52

Volunteers from our chapter should contact Jessica Smyth at jsmyth@sabr.org to sign up. Mike Hauptert and Cecilia Tan are contacting the authors chosen for the National Pastime issue for Minneapolis SABR 52 by Dec. 15.

7. Ideas for Research Projects
 - a. Rich said he will set up a date in early 2024 for another meeting at the Minnesota Historical Society for The Spread of Baseball Project for Minnesota counties. He said there are about 20-25 counties still left to document early baseball games.
 - b. Biographies of 1987 and 1991 Twins players. Stew has a list in the newsletter which gives all the players who don't yet have a SABR Bio.
 - c. Stew also mentioned a SABR book/project on players who homered in their first time up.
8. Ballpark commemoration: Stew said he hasn't heard back from the person to whom he sent the application. Stew will put in for a SABR grant for money by Dec. 19 just in case.
9. Research Roundtable – Around the Horn
 - the Ken Keltner Chapter has a Dec. 13 meeting about the book "Call Up".
 - Bob mentioned the SABR 19th century committee meeting for Jan. 9 with author Thomas Gilbert. Gene suggested everyone try to read the SABR Day book. Stew said that in the book the "second" AL President was talked about, who was an interim choice.
 - John read about Scott Simon's experience as a Cubs fan (My Cubs – A Love Story). Bob said he used to be on NPR. Art mentioned Pat Pieper, longtime PA announcer for Cubs since 1907.
 - Stew brought up how Maddon screwed up when he changed pitchers by claiming an injury. Sam Fuld Rule. Art asked Stew about the rule change concerning the home team batting last. 1950. Ed Edmonds talked about the Yankees player Toolson's antitrust case. When did teams stop filing reserve lists? 1972 maybe.
 - Stew has acquired some old time MLB rules books he was searching for.

Trivia Time: Christmas Quiz by Gene Gomes

ALCS and World Series for the champion White Sox. Career record: 136-125. Jon **Garland**

6. Last name of the player who pitched complete-game victories in Games 1 and 4 in his team's "Miracle" World Series victory over the Philadelphia Athletics.
Dick Rudolph
7. Last name of this first baseman who won six Gold Gloves in a row; his most famous scoop was of a three-year-old in the 2002 World Series. That little guy is now a second baseman in the Nationals organization. J.T. **Snow** scooped up Darren Baker.
8. The last name of the player, who with an artificial lower leg pitched pro ball in 1945, including one game in the majors (5.1 innings). He later twice won a national amputee golf championship, demonstrating great determination after his WW2 injury.
Bert Shephard
9. Last name of the former White Sox & Red Sox outfielder famous for his poor fielding (44 errors in 418 games). He hit .305 in a four-year major league career in the '30s. His 2714 career minor league hits, six batting titles and a Triple Crown (.404, 45 HR, 188 RBI) for San Francisco Seals in 1928 earned him entry into the PCL Hall of Fame.
Smead Jolley
10. The first name of the youngest of three Dominican Republic-born brothers who played in the outfield together for two innings in a game at Pittsburgh in 1963.
Jesus Alou, along with brothers Matty and Felipe
Merry Christmas!

Next research committee meetings: Jan. 15 and Feb. 19, 2024.

Next Trivia Time quizzer: John Buckeye

Meeting adjourns at 8:42 pm