

SABR Halsey Hall Board Meeting Minutes  
February 4, 2024 – Zoom Meeting

Board Members present: Rich Arpi, Daniel Dorff, John Buckeye, Howard Luloff, Ed Edmonds, Jerry Janzen, Bob Tholkes  
Also in attendance: Bob Komoroski, John Gregory, Gene Gomes, Dave Lande

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by President Rich Arpi

Meeting Agenda

1. Review December 10 Meeting Minutes

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

2. Treasurer's Report - Jerome Janzen

Our balance is \$1545.10. The only expense so far this year was \$65 for membership for Andre Lanoue who was our speaker at the fall meeting.

3. Membership Report – Stew and John

*Stew emailed the following:*

Ten new members have joined the chapter since the last report at the December 10 board meeting: Tom Mollen, Katie Roggenburk, Jeff Schwenn, Kris Hard, Jennifer Parker, Jarod Smith, Thomas Paul, Mike Wellnitz, Blake Ask, and Henry Rosckes. As of January 29, 2024, 184 SABR members have the Halsey Hall Chapter listed as their primary chapter.

4. Newsletter Report - Stew

*Stew emailed the following:*

The February 2024 newsletter will be out the week of February 5. The January newsletter noted that the spring business meeting will include the elections of three members to two-year terms on the board of directors. It did not have an invitation to submit a candidate statement – although the February issue could note this – and it did not have a contact person for interested members to contact. If that could be decided at the board meeting and conveyed to me, that would be swell.

5. Book Club Report - Rich

The next book club meeting is this Saturday February 10th at Barnes and Noble at 9:30am. "Lou" by Lou Piniella is being discussed.

6. Social Media Report – Bob K.

The Facebook group has 288 members. It was mentioned that the number is a decrease from the total at December's board meeting and that the amount of members going up and down is to be expected and normal.

Bob mentioned that Facebook has been removing posts from one long-standing member due to what they are calling cyber security threats. This hasn't impacted the group in any way and there's no reason to be concerned. It was asked how do we go about avoiding that happening and Bob assured it's only impacted one person's posts and is not risking our Facebook group in any way.

## 7. Webmaster Report

### *Stew emailed the following:*

Our webmaster, John Gregory, recently got a nastygram from our web provider. It was about the large file we had on our Video Archives page (<https://halseyhall.org/videoarchives.html>) for video of our 19th century symposium. John transferred this large one as well as a smaller one to his youtube account, and I have changed the links on our video page. John wrote to me, "This solution means that the two files are stored online in my personal YouTube area. Does the Chapter already have a shared area that might be better? Could be a topic for the meeting on Sunday, although the majority of the attendees will likely have neither interest nor expertise to discuss in detail - desired outcome probably is to decide if the present solution is acceptable, or to name a small working committee to find and propose another solution. Perhaps there are other videos out there that should be collected while we are at it, for instance."

### *Discussion:*

John Gregory mentioned that we received a complaint from the web hosts about the 3GB of video from the 19th Century Base Ball Symposium saying it was too large. John put the video in his Youtube feed and a link to it was put on the website. The decision was to reach out to Jacob Pomrenke about getting the video on SABR's YouTube channel. John already reached out to him on Friday and is waiting to hear back.

## 8. MVP Committee Report - Gene

### *Gene emailed the following:*

The 2022-23 Annual Report we sent in to SABR was reviewed, and there are survey questions we need to nail down for 2024:

1. "Has our chapter conducted programming either a one-time or ongoing, which creates member and regional benefit?"
  - in 2023 we had the Brookdale Library event on Bud Fowler, etc. (doesn't count for this year)
  - in 2023 we sponsored a National History Day Minnesota scholarship. (2024?)
2. "Has our **chapter** engaged in a research project or other project of their choosing?"
  - in 2022-23 we continued the Early Base Ball /Spread of Base Ball in MN project, and updated the poster. (2024?)
  - in June 2023 we added Bud Fowler and Jack Morris to our large poster "Beyond The Twins: Minnesota Hall-of-Famers"
    - this should count for this year
  - in April 2023 (doesn't count for this year) we developed the Jeopardy-style Power Point Trivia game for our meetings.

Gene suggests we review goals for 2024. A Suggested project: How about a chapter research project like "All-Time Career-best WAR Rankings for Washington/Minnesota Franchise Players". Or something like that? We could post it on SABR.org's newsletter.

### *Discussion:*

Ed asked about including the effort to get bios for the 1987 and 1991 World Series Championship Teams. Gene stated that no-one has stepped up to oversee this and the effort was not formally adopted by the chapter as a project we are doing. He stated that if multiple people step forward to do bios that perhaps it could count then. The need to further recruit people to write bios was mentioned.

Bob T. asked if we have a project for #2 (above) so far or if we still need one. A discussion about library events ensued Including 1) a talk about World Series games from the Washington

Senators and MN Twins history. and 2) A project involving our banner and Joe Mauer being inducted to the HOF. There was also talk about MN History Day and Gene said he can ask if this counts.

#### 9. Research Committee Report - Gene

*Gene emailed the following:*

Meetings were held in December and January; attendance was 12 and 13 respectively; The committee approved a Terry Bohn presentation for May 18. No guest speaker for May 18 as of yet.

#### 10. Events report – Howard

Twins Fest - Twins Fest had good turnout. There was a booth at Target Field and Howard thanked Doug Skipper for organizing the event.

SABR Day - Steve Gietschier spoke about his book and the video is available on Youtube.

History Day - Sarah Johnson is not able to make it to this year's event. Rich will offer to be a judge in her place. The event takes place at the Minneapolis Convention Center in April and there has in the past been a \$150 award given to the winner. Rich asked if anyone would want to be a judge along with him. Bob T. offered to be a second judge. Rich asked for authorization to give up to \$150 to the winner providing the Historical Society is still ok with it and there's presentations about baseball. John B made the motion and Howard seconded. Motion passed.

Grant - Pillbox

*Stew emailed the following:*

To comply with the deadline, I applied for a SABR Local Grant of \$5,000. I haven't yet received approval from the state of Minnesota for a commemorative marker to be placed on the site of the Down Town (St. Paul) Base Ball Park (The Pillbox), but I wanted to get the grant request submitted.

Spring Meeting - The meeting is May 18th. Possible guest speakers were discussed, including, Jim O'Neill (Joe Mauer's former Cretin coach), Dick Bremer, LaVelle E. Neal III, and Clyde Doepner (Twins archivist)

Town Ball - there are numerous possibilities not far from the location of our membership. It was mentioned to pick a date (or a few) and let Stew know what they are so they can be put in the newsletter and people can start making plans.

#### 11. Old Business

SABR 52 - Emma stated she is available for a Women's in Baseball panel.

#### 12. New Business Items

Election of board members. There are three openings as Bob, Jerry and Ed's terms are coming to an end. Openings will be mentioned in the newsletter

Emails - There have been several emails from authors wanting to have Zoom events to discuss their upcoming books. Gene mentioned that he will reach out to Keith O'Brien about his upcoming book entitled "Charlie Hustle" to set up a Zoom event. Gene mentioned the desire of opening the event up to the community and not just SABR members.

#### 13. Next board meeting

The next board meeting will be April 14 at 7pm

#### 14. Adjourn

Rich moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01pm. Ed seconded. Motion passed.