

Halsey Hall Research Committee – August 19, 2024 Meeting Minutes

Attendees (14): Stew Thornley, Dave Lande, Bob Komoroski, Art Mugalian, Ed Edmonds, Glenn Renick, John Seals, Mike Hauptert, Terry Bohn, Dan Levitt, Brenda Himrich, Rich Arpi, Darryl Sannes, Gene Gomes (late)

1. Pre-meeting banter and baseball talk: Many good comments regarding SABR 52 held earlier in August in Minneapolis. Some attendees came down with Covid. Unhappiness regarding buses leaving Saints game at a pre-determined set time.
2. Meeting started at 7:01 p.m. Reviewed July 15 meeting minutes. Ed moved to approve and Art seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.
3. SABR 52
 - a. Ed received many good comments from other attendees regarding SABR 52.
 - b. Stew sent e-mails to the Twins and Saints principals thanking them for their support and participation in SABR 52. Twins responded that they'll be happy to do so again when the SABR convention comes back to Minneapolis.
 - c. Bob said that many out-of-town attendees were surprised at the good relationship between the Halsey Hall Chapter and the Twins and Saints.
 - d. Photo was taken of 18 of us who filled bags before convention.
4. Fall Chapter meeting
 - a. Sam Sundermeyer's proposed research presentation: "Last Ounce of Magic: Win Probability of the 2009 Twins": Sam's proposed research presentation received much positive feedback. John moved to approved his presentation and Art seconded the motion. The motion was unanimously approved. This is the first research presentation approved for the chapter meeting.
 - b. Glenn suggested that Rich make a presentation regarding the "Spread of Baseball in Minnesota" project as many chapter members may not be fully aware of the scope of this project. Concurrence reached that a 5-10-minute verbal report could be included as part of the Research Committee report at the chapter meeting. Rich agreed to do a write-up on the project and send it to Stew for inclusion in the chapter newsletter.
 - c. For a guest speaker, Bob is reaching out to the former head baseball coaches at the University of Minnesota (John Anderson) and Concordia College – St. Paul.
5. Book club
 - a. The book club met on August 17 to discuss the Harry Dalton biography, "Leave While the Party's Good" written by Lee Kluck. Art said there was a lot of good discussion regarding the book. Lee Kluck might be willing to participate in a Zoom call with the chapter regarding the book.

6. Research roundtable

-Dan made a presentation at SABR 52 entitled "John McGraw's Florida Land Investment Fiasco". He'll be out of town during the Fall Chapter meeting but could possibly make a presentation to the chapter at a future date.

7. Other Item: Gene received an email from Frank White regarding tours he'll give at Target Field's African-American baseball exhibits in Sept. and Oct. Gene will send email to chapter.

8. Trivia time – our 34th themed quiz: Hefty Quiz by John Seals

1. This one-time Minnesota Twins pitcher was born in Aruba and knighted in the "Order of Orange-Nassau" (a civil and military Dutch order of chivalry) in 2003. Sidney Ponson

2. This HOF player led the NL in HR four times in his career and holds the record for most RBI in a season. Hack Wilson

3. This pitcher appeared on "Late Night with David Letterman" while eating a sandwich and once recorded a song called "Fat is In". Terry Forster

4. This player, nicknamed "Burger," went 328 games without issuing an intentional walk, spanning over 4 years reputedly a record. He was quoted in the 2008 World Series: "I go from being one of the bright spots in Atlanta, getting Chipper and Teixeira to last night I give up two squibblers, and I'm the guinea pig. It's called being a pitcher". Ray King

5. This player and his son are first father-son duo to each hit 50 home runs in a season. In 1996 after his first stolen base in 1,096 games in the major leagues said: "I've been working on my jump for nine years". Cecil Fielder

6. This player played for the Boston Red Sox, Anaheim Angels, and New York Mets, hit 328 career HR, and was the American League MVP in 1995. He once had a Pastrami sandwich named after him at New York's famous Carnegie Deli. Mo Vaughn

7. This player is the oldest Twins pitcher with a complete-game victory of 9 innings or more. Bartolo Colon

8. This three-time All-Star had 51 saves in 1998 including in a "game 163" against his former team. Once said "I sure don't think of myself as a fat person, just someone who carries extra weight. I've never seen anyone on the DL with pulled fat". Rod Beck

9. This two-time All Star played for the Cardinals, Reds, Tigers, and Nationals, one of only three players to hit 3HR on Opening Day, also won the NL Comeback Player of the Year award in 2007. Dmitri Young

Extra inning:

10. "Good Ol' Folksy Joe" Garagiola once said you could wake this player up at 3 a.m. on Christmas morning, with two inches of snow on the ground, throw him a curveball, and he'd hit a line drive. Referred to as a "Walking Laundry Bag" by Sports Illustrated. Smokey Burgess

6. Next meetings: September 23 and October 21. Next quiz by Ed Edmonds.
7. Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m. Central.