

SABR Halsey Hall Board Meeting Minutes  
August 25, 2024 – Zoom Meeting

Board Members present: Ed Edmonds, Rich Arpi, Daniel Dorff, John Buckeye, Howard Luloff, Mike Hauptert, Terry Bohn

Absent but sending in MVP Committee and Research Committee items: Gene Gomes and Dave Lande

Also in attendance: Stew Thornley, Bob Komoroski, Brenda Himrich

Meeting called to order at 7:02 pm by President Ed Edmonds

1. Approval of Meeting Agenda

John moved and Bob K seconded. Agenda approved with no changes.

2. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes of June 9, 2024

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

3. Treasurer's Report and Discussion of New Chase Account – Rich Arpi

Current Checking account balance is \$1513.69. \$500 is expected from SABR for our Halsey Hall chapter reaching MVP status. Right now there is no way to access the funds while SABR is changing how accounts work and mandating they be with Chase Bank. Should have checks soon.

4. Recap of SABR 52 - John Buckeye, Daniel Dorff, Gene Gomes, and Stew Thornley

The names of Halsey Hall members who attended SABR 52 are listed in the newsletter.

Hopefully no one was missed. It was stated that there were 591 registrants for the convention.

Many people discussed the buses from the Saints game leaving at a set time instead of leaving say 'x' amount of time after the game ends or having buses leave once full after the game. The feeling was that with this being a SABR event that priority should have been on members being able to see the full game and not risk missing the end of it due to buses having to leave at a certain time. Stew will contact Scott regarding the buses leaving at a certain time and provide input around our consensus of preference being to not have the buses run that way in the future. During discussion it was stated from people's experience that in LA and Miami in the past buses left after the game and not at a certain time. There was a question as to why it was different this time and pondering if maybe because the Saints are a Minor League team and not a Major League team that it was different.

People recapped various research presentations including Dan Levitt's John McGraw presentation, Melissa Ludtke's Women in baseball presentation with further discussion about her book 'Locker Room Talk', the 10 cent beer night presentation, and the presentation reviewing HOF voting.

People recapped various panels including the hitters, pitchers, and future of broadcasting panels.

It was mentioned that 125 people attended the tour of Target Field. 15 or so people attended the Sunday town ball game in Cologne.

Terry stated that he interacted with about 100 people through volunteering at the convention and that he received overwhelmingly positive feedback from people about the convention. Ed shared

that many positive comments were received from National SABR staff and attendees about our chapter volunteers. Bob stated that there was never a shortage of volunteers at the tables and shared the example that if someone needed to step away for a bit there were always people who would step in.

Bob stated that people were wowed by the fact that 4 Hall of Famers were present. Historically there haven't been that many and sometimes there hasn't been any.

On a sad note: Stew shared that Steve Elsberry passed away. He was a major person within the Field of Dreams chapter and many people in the board meeting shared how he meant a lot to our chapter and our members. People also shared their memories of him from SABR 52. Our condolences go out to his wife Lyn and the Field of Dreams chapter for their loss.

#### 5. Reimbursements – Banners and Jumpline – Action Items

##### Banners:

Brenda stated that we had two banners at the convention with lots of interest. The HOF in Minnesota banner needed to be repaired. The Townball banner needed to be updated as many more counties had been researched from before. The total for the two banners was \$519. Brenda sought reimbursement in part or full to pay for them. John B. moved reimbursement in full. Rich seconded. Motion passed. There was discussion about the benefit those banners play in member recruitment and as a resource to share information.

##### Jumpline:

The chapter needs to send reimbursement to John Gregory in the amount of \$22.92 for a jumpline. John moved reimbursement. Many seconded. Motion passed.

#### 6. Membership Report – John Buckeye and Stew Thornley

There are seven new members to the Halsey Hall Chapter since the June 2024 board meeting: Theo Tollefson, Ross Bennett, Quinn Wahl, Marty Krogman, Henry Bednar, Tom Goldstein, Steven Bolster. Along with Joey Thomalla, we have had eight new chapter members since the June 1 beginning of the fiscal year. As of August 23, 2024, there are 189 SABR members with the Halsey Hall Chapter as their primary chapter.

#### 7. Newsletter Report – Stew Thornley

The newsletter is out.

#### 8. Book Club Report - Rich Arpi

The book club met August 17th and discussed the book 'Leave While the Party's Good' by Lee Kluck. The book was well received. Attendees were - Al Bratkovich, Brenda Himrich, Art Mugalian, Ed Edmonds, Stew Thornley, Steve Bratkovich, Rich Arpi, Dan Levitt, and Mike Sluss.

Next book club meets November 19th and will be discussing "Summer of Shadows: A Murder, A Pennant Race, and the Twilight of the Best Location in the Nation" by Jonathan Knight.

#### 9. Social Media Report - Bob Komoroski

There are 203 Facebook members and we get a few new ones each month. Bob is still screening people. Mostly scammers, folks thinking it's a group about the singer named Halsey and people who don't answer the questions to join.

#### 10. MVP Committee Report – Gene Gomes

*Gene emailed the following:*

Our Halsey Hall Chapter was awarded MVP status for 2024 at the SABR 52 Convention in August. Congrats!

In order to maintain that status next year the chapter must (among other things):

- a. maintain/increase membership totals
- b. continue doing a Chapter Research Project, with multiple members contributing
- c. conduct a SABR Day event
- d. conduct a program in collaboration with another organization, as we did with the Twins rep at Rosedale Library in April.

Ed echoed that congrats to everyone for their hard work over the past year. Rich welcomed more chapter research project ideas (in addition to the counties project). Discussion turned to collaborating with outside organizations and Stew's presentation he is giving this fall at our chapter meeting was mentioned as a good presentation to do that with. Stew said he will reach out about partnering this winter or spring to do a larger event. Mike mentioned that it would be a good presentation to open up to the public. The discussion then turned to partnering with other SABR chapters. Mike H. mentioned the city of LaCrosse and us possibly partnering with the Milwaukee chapter to participate in an event there and inviting the Iowa and Wisconsin chapters. Brenda mentioned that when we do things with other chapters it's mutually beneficial.

#### 11. Research Committee Report – Gene Gomes and Dave Lande

*Gene emailed the following:*

- a. Dave Lande and Gene Gomes have agreed to continue as committee co-chairs for the 2024-2025 year..
- b. The committee held three Zoom meetings since the last Board meeting, averaging about 13 attendees.
- c. The committee has approved two presentations for the Fall Chapter Meeting in November, one by Sam Sundermeyer on the 2009 Minnesota Twins' Division title race, and one by Stew on a Perry Werden All Stars vs. The Old Guard exhibition game in 1933. We have not secured a Guest Speaker yet.
- d. Gene represented the Halsey Hall Chapter at the "Five All Central Division SABR Chapters" Zoom event on July 18. 42 were in attendance, including 10 Halsey Hallers. The Cleveland Chapter bragged about the Guardians being a few games ahead, but Gene warned that the Twins could overtake them.

#### 12. Events report – Howard

Fall Meeting - The meeting will be November 2nd. Two presentations are set. There is still room for 2 or 3 more. There are many ideas for a guest speaker and Howard has reached out to John Anderson and is awaiting response. For roles: Howard will MC, John B volunteered to bring coffee/beverages, Rich will bring nametags.

Town Ball -

Pending the 2025 schedule, a game in Cologne would be good next year based on the experience he and others had there on Sunday with SABR 52.

#### 13. New Business - Ad-Hoc Committee to Review By-Laws and Procedures - Michael Haupt

Ad-Hoc Committee:

Ed and Mike have discussed reviewing the bylaws and procedures. They are seeking four other members to help. Terry volunteered to help. They will reach out to more Halsey Hall members to see if there is further interest.

#### 14. Next Board Meeting: October ?

October 13th at 7pm via Zoom

15. Adjourn

Stew moved to adjourn the meeting. Mike seconded. Motion passed at 8:07pm.