

SABR Halsey Hall Board Meeting Minutes
December 8, 2024 – Zoom Meeting

Board Members present: Ed Edmonds, Rich Arpi, Daniel Dorff, John Buckeye, Howard Luloff, Mike Hauptert, Terry Bohn
Also in attendance: Stew Thornley, Bob Komoroski, Gene Gomes, Jim Cox

Meeting called to order at 7:30 pm by President Ed Edmonds

1. Approval of Meeting Agenda

John moved and Howard seconded. Agenda approved with no changes.

2. Approval of the Board Meeting Minutes of October 13, 2024

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

3. Treasurer's Report – Rich Arpi

We have not seen any money yet for reaching MVP status. We should be due \$850 total between that and money for our Fall meeting. Current account balance is \$755.86. There was a suggestion to check with Dan Levitt (SABR Treasurer) about the money for the MVP status.

4. Membership Report – John Buckeye and Stew Thornley

Stew emailed the following:

Six new members have joined the Halsey Hall Chapter since the October 2024 board meeting: Andy Sjerven, Armando Ernesto Jimenez, Doug Kenison, Ronnie Pease, Simon Steeves, Kurt Franke.

As of December 7, 2024, 194 members identify the Halsey Hall Chapter as their primary chapter.

5. Newsletter Report – Stew Thornley

Stew emailed the following:

The next one will be out some time.

6. Book Club Report - Rich Arpi

7 or 8 people attended the last book club meeting on December 7th. '*Kiss It Good-bye: The Mystery, the Mormon, and the Moral of the 1960 Pittsburgh Pirates*' by John Moody was discussed. People during the board meeting spoke of their memories of the 1960 series, including it being the first time some saw tv in color.

7. Social Media Report - Bob Komoroski

Bob emailed the following:

The Halsey Hall Facebook page currently has 314 members.

Discussion:

Bob spoke about a new platform called *Bluesky*. He stated that many people are moving there from 'X.' He proposed abandoning X to create a *Bluesky* chapter page. Right now there is only one other chapter (Elysian Fields) on the platform along with a SABR photos page. *Bluesky* is increasing in membership...Gene stated that there are still SABR groups on X like the Baseball Card committee...Stew mentioned he was in favor of the change if someone was willing to do the work to set up an account and establish it. Bob said he was willing to do that...There was further support for the idea as right now no-one maintains the Halsey Hall account on X (last

post was August 16 2023) and we have someone volunteering to establish one on *Bluesky*. Which is an improvement in and of itself...Stew mentioned that he thought someone is tracking which SABR chapters/groups are on which social media platforms....Stew will look up our Halsey Hall email account so that Bob can perhaps use that email to set up a new *Bluesky* account....It was asked and Gene answered that setting up a *Bluesky* account won't give us MVP credit...Bob made a motion to create a *Bluesky* account and John seconded. Motion passed.

8. MVP Committee Report – Gene Gomes

Gene emailed the following:

The collaborative event on Nov. 9 at the Hennepin History Museum attended by 25 should serve as our Chapter Event.

We need to plan on a SABR Day event in January.

We need to have some continued participation in our Research Project at the History Center.

Discussion:

Bob proposed for SABR day that the chapter has Charlie Vascellaro present about Rickwood Field and the game played there in August. The idea includes inviting the Keltner (Wisconsin) and Field of Dreams (Iowa) chapters to join. This would be a Zoom event. Gene was asked about the requirements for the SABR day event. He stated that it has to take place on or around SABR Day (Feb 1st this year) and chapter members have to be invited. Bob will contact Charlie about his availability.

Discussion turned to the AL Central Zoom as we have done in previous years. Gene will contact Gary about setting up the AL Central Meeting with the other SABR chapters from the AL Central and try to get a date set. Preferably a date that works for John Bonnes from Twins Daily as he'd give the Twins update.

Discussion then turned to the chapter's research project: *The Spread of Baseball in Minnesota* headed up by Rich. He continues to go to the library on Fridays. He has been researching amateur teams from 1908 and 1909 lately from the Iron Range. Glenn has joined at times. The more people that join the project the better for it to count as a chapter research project. Right now there are people that have taken certain towns or geographical regions to research. More people would be helpful. It was suggested to contact Anthony Bush in Duluth who may be of assistance and might be willing to research a city up in that area.

9. Research Committee Report – Gene Gomes and Dave Lande

Gene emailed the following:

We had two meetings, with 12-13 attending each one.

We discussed Dan Evans as a future guest speaker, and possible Spring Meeting dates.

Discussion:

Sam S. is still an option to present at the Spring Meeting as he had to cancel in the Fall.

Stew sought help with the Pillbox Plaque of which he emailed the following:

There is a meeting coming up December 17 with the chapter member trying to get a commemorative marker up for the Pillbox and the CPAP. He sought help getting others to look over the application and to contribute ideas. Mike, John, Ed, Terry, Daniel and Rich indicated a willingness to help.

10. Events report – Howard

The Spring Meeting will be April 19th. Gene noted that April is a good time for our meeting because it allows the meeting to be placed in our Annual Report which is due in May.

The January Fred Souba Hot Stove League Meeting is at Stanley's Northeast Bar Room on January 11.

Regarding Twins Fest Howard has emailed Doug Skipper and is awaiting a reply regarding coordinating our presence at Twins Fest again this year.

There will be a chapter event March 9th at 1pm to go watch the Gophers take on Purdue. Brunch will take place beforehand.

11. Membership Research News

Stew is documenting a list of MLB rule changes year by year since 1950. The new website chronicling the rules changes can be viewed at <https://milkeespress.com/baseballrules.html>

12. New Business

Jim talked about door prizes for the Spring and Fall chapter meetings. He suggested ceasing to do door prizes because SABR has a new policy that does not allow for the chapter to reimburse people for them. Previously on March 6 2023 SABR made the decision to allow for up to a \$50 reimbursement for door prizes (before that it had been \$100). Since that time Jim was finding new items for the door prizes that fell well below that \$50 maximum. But now SABR will not allow for the reimbursement of any funds for door prizes. In discussion at the board meeting it was noted that the door prizes probably don't increase attendance at the meetings and that there is also a free table which generally has many items brought by chapter members that generates a lot of interest. It was noted by many that the chapter doesn't need door prizes. Ed made a motion to cease doing door prizes and Mike seconded. Motion passed. Regarding trivia it was noted that there doesn't need to be prizes following trivia but people can bring something to share if they wish. But they can't get reimbursed. It was stated that Howard has done a great job with trivia, it's a fun part of the meeting, and the contest itself is a prize enough.

Rich spoke about History Day and judging. History Day is in April and Rich will ask Bob T if he will help again this year with the judging. If not, Rich will reach out to others for assistance. Last year the reward was \$150 to the winning project.

13. Next Board Meeting: February 9 or February 16?

No discussion took place about this

14. Adjourn

Mike moved to adjourn the meeting. John seconded. Motion passed at 8:53pm.