

June Junaluskans General Meeting Minutes

In Person

June 1, 2022

The Junaluskans met at Long's Chapel United Methodist Church. Nancy Hood, President, called the meeting to order. She expressed thanks to Steve and Susie Crites for their help in letting the group use the building and assisting Junaluskans to the meeting room. She welcomed all and asked if we had any first timers. Mary Kay Williams said this was her first meeting. Nancy announced that the July 6 Junaluskans meeting would be a fellowship meeting only. A sign-up sheet was passed for those willing to make refreshments for the meeting.

Hilda Ryan gave the Caring and Sharing report. She has sent cards to the following people:

Donna Fisher upon the death of her mother, Hattie Polk.

Dave Nicholson upon the death of his mother.

Ray Finklea after he broke his hip.

Nancy Hood led the group in prayer.

Larry Roberts led the group in celebrating June birthdays and anniversaries.

Bill Lowry provided the Junaluska Moment.

A couple of weeks ago something happened in front of my house that brought a smile to my face. They repaved the road. Some of you have experienced that happy feeling already. That, in turn, got me to thinking about our paving beginnings. This is a good time to remember such things with our one hundred ninth birthday coming up. In June of 1913, the auditorium was in place. The dam was beginning to create the lake and already there were thirteen houses under construction. One thing you would not have seen was any paved streets. Remember, the valley which would become Junaluska had only recently been called, "the best corn growing land west of Asheville." There were no roads.

That great opening missionary conference was followed by other events. Several hotels were built, and more homes were being built. Trains and now automobiles were bringing more people. When he laid out the plat for the Assembly, engineer J.W. Siever had the foresight to include roads, but he did not say what kind. Indeed, in 1929, then Superintendent, Ralph Nollner, reported that the Assembly had an auditorium that would seat thirty-five hundred, a hundred private cottages, fourteen hotels, and seventeen miles of gravel roads. Most of the time there was less gravel and more mud. As Caroline Hudson said, "Red mud, the sticky kind and we were rarely free of it." Paving of those roads and other roads came slowly. Some paving began in 1947. In 1948, Carolina and Littleton Roads were paved as were Stuart Circle and Glenview.

In 1947, the Waynesville Bypass was constructed by the North Carolina Department of Transportation. This was done by cutting a road through the Junaluska campus so that traffic going from Asheville to Cherokee would not have to go through Waynesville. The Assembly leadership was delighted. J.W. Fowler, then Superintendent, is quoted as saying, "We have had nothing comparable to this in recent years and I am confident that it will send through these grounds as many as twenty-five thousand tourist cars each year." In appreciation the Department of Transportation agreed to pave the road from the Terrace Hotel to the highway. Other paving continued until now we have all our streets paved and, in some cases, repaved. Our roads have even become a fascinating part of our history.

Stay Tuned.

Nancy Hood reported that the Board and General Meeting minutes for May had been approved and can be found online at www.lakejunaluska.com.

The Treasurer's report was approved by the Board. It was not printed in the Lake News and Views this month. It will be sent out through the Frank Stith email.

Executive Director, Ken Howle, said that one of the biggest reunions after Covid, was happening now. The Seventh Day Adventists come as families, with lots of children and youth. He expressed thanks to the Junaluskans for their volunteer work and the upcoming Flea Market.

He said more conferences were planned this summer. We are expecting more than twelve hundred youth at the M28 conferences.

Staffing is much better this year. Twenty-seven international staff are here. They are living in Sunnyside. More summer staff has been hired and Junaluska is ready to hire more.

There are thirty-five capital improvement projects ongoing. The Kern Building has had the porch repaired and painted at the cost of seventy-five thousand dollars.

Siler Circle, Tillman Road, and Hoosier Drive will be paved. After the first layer of paving, tar and gravel will be placed on top.

Water and sewer work will begin on Epworth.

There is a new cabinet for the Book of Memory in Memorial Chapel. The Book of Memory is a record of ninety thousand names of those Methodists that served in World War II.

Woodwork has been refinished in the columbarium and new heating and air conditioned has been added.

Four new pickle ball courts have been added to the tennis courts. Pickle ball lines have been painted blue.

More improvements are planned during the summer.

Trolleys and shuttles are available to use in getting around the Assembly grounds.

The sale of the Colonial Inn continues. The buyer has agreed to terms that Junaluska has put forth. The front of the building will remain as is. Hoping to be under contract soon. The Atkins house is being well preserved.

The Community Council will meet Tuesday, June 14, at 4:00pm.

The next Lake Junaluska Property Owners Association will meet on Saturday, July 9.

Mike Huber, General Manager, said staffing was better and they were working on finding a Director of Programming.

Worship Services will be held under the tent next to Stuart Auditorium and not in Stuart Auditorium.

You can go on the Junaluska website –www.lakejunaluska.com – to find a list of summer activities. On July 4 weekend, there will be fireworks on July 3. The floating lanterns will be put on the lake on Friday, July 1. Glory Way Quartet concert will be on July 3. July 4 parade on July 4 at 11:00am. Balsam Range Concert on July 4 at 7:30pm. Food trucks, tethered hot air balloon, and other activities at Nanci Weldon Gym on July 4, from 12:00pm to 2:00pm. The Cherokee IV will be running throughout the weekend.

Volunteers are always needed. Contact Betsy Schuessler if you can help. People willing to strip beds are needed at this time.

Reverend Dan Martin, retired in 2020. He is in charge of the summer worship series. The services will be held under the tent at 9:00am on Sundays, beginning June 26. Cayce Armstrong will be in charge of music. He also has put together the Theologian in Residence program. You can go to the website www.lakejunaluska.com/events to see the list of preachers and what they will be teaching.

Director of Development, Rebecca Mathis, said we could go to www.lakejunaluska.com/July4 for event listings for July 4 weekend. If you are interested in summer activities go to www.lakejunaluska.com/events.

Rebecca said that Sydney Sullivan will be coming in as the new marketing person.

Junaluska Weeklys start June 10. New editions will be coming out on Fridays. They will be online and on paper around the Lake.

We are celebrating Junaluska's one hundred ninth birthday June 24 and 25. A Lake Junaluska Day is planned. Go to www.lakejunaluska.com/lakejday. Share why you love Lake Junaluska. Donations to support the Lake will be taken.

In person bell ringing at the Weatherby Bell will be Saturday, June 25, at 11:30am. The bell will be rung one hundred and nine times. There will also be Lake Junaluska Selfie Stations.

Nancy Hood asked for committee reports.

Jim Correll, speaking on behalf of Judy LaFontaine, reminded the group that the Flea Market set up would be Friday June 10 and the Flea Market would be Saturday, June 11. If you are interested in volunteering, contact Judy LaFontaine. Jack Ewing is in charge of pickup if you need to send something to the Flea Market.

Jim Pearson gave a swan update. He said there is no intention of getting rid of the swans at the Lake. Shy Ann started going over the dam. She was moved to a pond at the golf course and was chased by male swans. She was brought back to the Lake while arrangements were made to send her to Georgia, where she will be with only one other swan, Lucy. CDs have been hung off the dam to keep the swans on the lake.

Paul Starnes asked for help with ushering at the Sunday services.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Evelyn Correll
Recording Secretary