

**May Junaluskans General Meeting Minutes
In Person and On Zoom
May 4, 2022**

Steve Crites, second vice president, called the meeting to order. He welcomed all to the meeting. He announced that Hilda Ryan was unable to attend the meeting, so there would be no Caring and Sharing report. He did tell the group that Nancy and Rush Hood's son was in ICU in a hospital in Florida. He asked that we remember them in prayer.

Don Rankin celebrated birthdays and anniversaries for the group. He also announced that there would be a Thursday Night Jam on May 19, in the Nanci Weldon Gym, from 7:00 pm to 8:30 pm.

Steve Crites led the group in an opening prayer.

Steve Crites called on Bill Lowry for the Junaluska Moment.

Junaluska Moment

Recently, I spoke to a group regarding Lambuth Inn. In my presentation I said, "If walls could talk." This morning I want to begin similarly. Only it is not walls. This morning it is gates. It occurred to me that Junaluska's gates are an especially important part of our history. So, I just let my imagination take over and let our gates talk about themselves. Here is what I came up with:

The East Gate spoke first: "I had the pleasure of being the first main gate. To begin with, all traffic came through me. You see, the main highway from Asheville came right by the Assembly. In 1939, shortly after the Assembly opened, they decided that there needed to be an impressive entrance. So, they built me. They placed me so that persons in cars entering the Assembly grounds had a wonderful view as they drove in. For a while, I was where most people took pictures with the Lake in the background. In a sense I represent the beginning of things around here. They even made me large enough to shelter gate boys in bad weather. I was the main entrance for eight years."

Then, the West Gate spoke up: "Oh, but then in 1947, they built the Waynesville bypass right through the Assembly grounds to the west side of the Lake. Cars going from Asheville to Cherokee did not have to go through Waynesville anymore. Most of the traffic shifted to the west side of the Lake. I was impressive as a main gate also and I had something that the first gate did not have. I had the only restrooms of any of the gates."

Then the current main gate spoke up: "But you two are "has beens." I became the Main Gate in 1977. In an effort to drain marsh land to get rid of frogs and mosquitoes, a temporary dam was built across the west end of the Lake. When the project was completed, they decided to put a road on the dam and create a new entrance. I was built for that one. Since they had decided to stop charging persons to enter the Lake, they did not put a shelter in me. But to this day, I am the main entrance."

Okay, so I let my imagination get away, but each of the gates, does indeed, represent a part of our history. The first gate, the beginning of Lake Junaluska, the second gate, the bypass through our campus, and the current gate, the draining of the marsh and building the Nanci Weldon gym.

Stay Tuned.

Steve Crites said the Board and General Minutes for the April Junaluskans meetings had been approved by the Board. They will be posted online at lakejunaluskacommunity.org. The Treasurer's report for April was also approved by the Board.

Steve Crites announced that the Junaluska dinners have been suspended until September due to the busy time of summer.

Ken Howle, executive director of the Lake, presented an update. He said that the plant sale this past weekend was a success. Over eighteen thousand dollars of plants were sold.

Paving will begin in the next few weeks. Paving was postponed in the Fall due to the flooding repairs that needed to be completed. Wells Road is in the worst shape. Also, Mouzon, Siler Circle, Tillman Road, the cold part of South Lakeshore Road, and Holston Village Road will be repaired using a leveling surface and then a layer of tar and gravel.

The Kern Building has needed a lot of work. Seventy-five thousand dollars of repairs has been spent. The biggest area of repair has been to the new restaurant, Crepes and Custard. Drake Foulz, from Haywood 209 Café and operator of Crepes and Custard, spoke to the group. Highway 209 Café was opened in 2017. He helped start the Helping Haywood Foundation, which gives back to the community. Crepes and Custard will be open May 18, from 7:00 am to 3:00 pm. There will be a variety of sweet and savory crepes, salads, soups, and European custards. The restaurant will be a sit-down restaurant with a view of the Lake. Bob Johnston, of the Melting Pot, is also an operator of the Crepes and Custard.

The pickle ball courts will be expanded. There will be four new pickle ball courts added between now and mid-June.

New way-finding signage is going up. Signs will be going up on County Road as you enter and leave Junaluska grounds.

A stone mason will be working on the grounds to repair damage and loose rock on the stone walls.

The Department of Transportation project has not begun yet. Contracts have not been let. There have been trees cut in preparation for the project.

Ken reminded us that we can get information and alerts about the Lake through texts. This is sent out through Public Works. To sign up, go to lakejunaluskacommunity.org. and sign up there. Emails will continue to be sent out as well.

The Community Council will meet Tuesday, May 10, at 4:00 pm, in the Bethea Welcome Center.

Ken expressed a heartfelt thank you to the group for their understanding about delaying Junaluska dinners until the Fall.

Rebecca Mathis, Director of Development at the Lake, spoke of the Friends of the Lake 5K held on Easter weekend. She said that 337 people had registered for the race. She also talked about the Easter Sunrise service and that is well attended. Dr. Lee, Superintendent of the Smoky Mountain District, gave an inspirational sermon.

Rebecca let us know how we can find out what is happening this summer. There are two websites, lakejunaluska.com/play, is one. You can find a lengthy list of things to do and the cost. Also, you can go to lakejunaluska.com/events to see a calendar of upcoming events.

Steve Crites then asked for committee reports.

Linda Varner said that the National Day of Prayer event will be held Thursday, May 5, at the Amphitheater at 10:00 am. She also said there are two prayer boxes at the Lake and hopefully another one will be added soon.

Margaret Amick, Membership Secretary, said she would be available to collect dues after the meeting. Also, she would be accepting money for the Bocelli's/Hart Theater show on May 21. She reminded the group of the donation jar for the food pantry at Aviemore.

Judy LaFontaine reminded everyone of the Flea Market on Saturday, June 11. She told the group that a new tent had been purchased for the Sporting and Camping Equipment area. Set up will be Friday, June 10. If you need something picked up, call Judy or Ed LaFontaine.

Grace Gattis oversees the Fellowship Groups. She is forming groups of eight to ten people that are interested in sharing a meal together once a month. She has forms you need to fill out to be in a group. She will have forms to give out after the meeting.

Sondra Shepherd is in charge of the bake sale during the Flea Market. On Friday, her tent will be a hospitality tent. There will be snacks and drinks available, free of charge, only for workers on Friday. On Saturday, they will be selling baked goods, sausage biscuits, coffee, water, and drinks. Sondra asked that we bake cookies, brownies, pies, cakes, bread, etc. You can drop them off Friday or in the morning on Saturday. Please price your items, but nothing less than one dollar. She had some containers available for baked goods after the meeting. She also said she could use volunteers to help with the bake sale.

Jay Langford, head of the tent committee, said the new tent was expected to arrive today. The committee will be putting up the first tent on June 2. By June 10, all tents will be put up for the Flea Market. New volunteers are needed.

Diane Foederer asked that articles to Lake Views and News be sent to her on time. She also said that Books Alive has started back. It will be on the second Tuesdays at 1:00 pm, in the library in the Harrell Center.

Gary Phillips and his wife Patricia Parrish are collaborating with Jay Langford on adding additional attributes of the Christmas season to the Christmas decorations around the Lake. The Joy display has been up for several years. Each year, they plan to add another display. The attributes are Peace, Hope, and Love. The Peace display is to be added this year. There is an option to add either Mary, Joseph and the baby or the Lion and the Lamb. If someone would like to work with the carpentry aspect of the project, please contact Gary after the meeting.

Steve Crites asked if there were any first timers at the meeting. Sherry Fair stood and said she and her husband Hal had recently moved to the area. She was welcomed by the group.

Steve Crites adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted,
Evelyn Correll
Recording Secretary