

**April Junaluskans General Meeting Minutes
In Person and on Zoom
April 6, 2022**

Nancy Hood, President of the Junaluskans, called the meeting to order. She welcomed all and thanked the LJA staff for setting up Zoom for those wanting to attend the meeting virtually.

Hilda Ryan, head of Caring and Sharing reported cards were sent to the following:

Jim Pearson after fall and injuring his leg.

Martha Brown on a broken leg.

She also mentioned that Jean Holliday had fallen while walking the dog and was in the hospital and that Hattie Polk was in Hospice care.

Jim Correll gave the prayer.

Larry Roberts led the group in celebrating birthdays and anniversaries for the month of April.

Nancy Hood said she had several of Bill Lowry's books, *The Antechamber to Heaven*, to sell. This book is about the history of Lake Junaluska. She then called on Bill to give the Junaluska Moment.

CENTENNIAL MOMENT – 4/6/22

It was Monday, June 23, 1923, and already people were beginning to arrive at the new Southern Assembly for the Second General Missionary Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South. For thirteen families this was particularly exciting since they were going to see their new cottages on the grounds. Unfortunately, most of these families were disappointed. In my book I told of Nell Baylor who, upon seeing their not yet completed cottage, sat on a rock, and cried.

As she put it, "There was no water. Water had to be carried from a spring far up behind the Assembly Buildings."

Caroline Hudson agreed. As she put it, "Harmon Spring supplied drinking and bathing water." She added, "Each of us took turns at "toting water... ten minutes before meals." Likewise, the new assembly was truly out in the country. She continued, "We thought nothing of walking all the way to Waynesville for a cut of beef."

There was no electricity. New York had just gotten electricity thirty years earlier. But the Assembly had promised that there would be light in the new auditorium. They had installed a turbine in the dam but were having major problems stringing wire to the auditorium. William Quillian, who was on the staff of the Board of Missions and also had one of the new cottages, had the responsibility of setting up the arrangements in the auditorium commented, "We had considerable difficulty getting our electrical connections so that after a hectic day the lights (in the auditorium) could not be turned on until 7:30." But at the last minute, there was light in the auditorium.

How do we know these things? We can thank Dr. Mason Crum, who wrote a history of Junaluska. Crum was a member of the South Carolina Conference. He was also a professor at Duke University. He was a minister, an educator, and a historian. Mason Crum first visited Junaluska in August of 1919. Like most of us he fell in love with Junaluska on his first visit. Later he bought a lot and built a cottage here. In 1950 he wrote a history of Junaluska. In preparation for his book, he sent letters to what he called "the Pioneers of Junaluska" These would be those who were the earliest to be here. As he tells it, he sent forty letters and received only about thirteen replies. These he included in a chapter entitled *Notes from the Pioneers*. Thus, we have a mental picture of the earliest days here.

The notes are all interesting but there is one I truly care for. Mrs. W. I. Herbert wrote:

I have seen the Laurentian hills, the Rockies, the Sierras, the mountains of Central America and of Panama. I have seen Diamond Head and the Alps. I have spent weeks at the foot of Fujiyama and yet I still hold the opinion that there is no sight more beautiful anywhere than one may ...at six in the afternoon looking across the shimmering loveliness of Lake Junaluska to where the sun is setting in a great circle of mountains behind lofty Eagles Nest.

We, too, are fortunate to experience such scenes and experience the blessings of Junaluska.

Stay tuned

Nancy Hood reported that the Junaluskans Board had approved both the minutes of the March Board Meeting and the March General Meeting. They can be found on lakejunaluskacommunity.org. These minutes should be online within the week.

Nancy Hood also noted that the Treasurer's report was approved by the board.

The Junaluskans are planning to have the monthly dinner on April 19, at the Terrace Bistro. Steve Berwager will be at the back of the room after the meeting to take reservations. The cost of the meal is \$23.00 and that includes tax and tip. If you want to call Steve and make reservations, this must be done by April 11.

Ken Howle, Executive Director of Lake Junaluska, began his report by saying that he was thankful for the rain that helped put out the fire in Maggie Valley. Water was also drawn from Lake Junaluska and was beneficial in saving several homes.

The booms are going back down in Richland Creek. One is in and the other is being worked on. The County is helping to get rid of the trash collected by the booms.

Work is being done on County Road and Sleepy Howell Road to fix water issues. Also, work is being done to clean up the sides of the roads. Native plantings will be going in.

Ken announced several items from the Board of Trustees meeting.

Continuing to pursue the sale of the Colonial building.

Charitable giving has been made toward repurposing work on the World Methodist Museum. The building will now be known as the Warren Center. The Warren Family gave funds to purchase the museum and for its updating.

A sidewalk is going in at the recreational area. This will bring more safety to the area. Also, Security has been moved to the York Dining Commons. The goal is to have more multi-generational experiences in the recreational area.

Mike Huber, General Manager, reminded us Easter was coming up with several events happening here at the Lake. On Easter morning, there will be a Sunrise service at the Cross. Reverend Jae Lee, District Superintendent of the United Methodist Church in our area, will be the preacher. Afterwards, there will be an Easter Buffet at Lambuth. The new food services director has been here for two weeks.

Mike gave the group an update on fireworks on the Fourth of July. The fireworks company that normally does this is no longer in business. A new company was found but due to prior commitments, the fireworks show at the Lake will be on July 3. There will be a Fourth of July parade and the floating lanterns will be on the Lake again. Balsam Range will perform on the Fourth.

Mike said that in making repairs to the Kern Center, they found that rafters were rotten. They will be meeting with the contractors to see where to go from here. There is work being done to repair parts of the Walking Trail where roots have popped up. The fascia on the Bethea Welcome Center has been painted. Rock repair has been done at the Main and West Gates. Other rock repair on the grounds will be done.

Lots of groups will be coming next month. Still looking for summer staff.

Twenty-seven international staff will begin arriving May 1. Sunnyside Lodge will be used for lodging for them.

Highway 209 Café will be opening the old soda shop hopefully May 1. It will have custard and both savory and sweet crepes.

Mike recognized his new administrative assistant, Bitsi Schuessler. He said details about programming had been added to her duties for now as Tammy McDowell has left.

Rebecca Mathis, Director of Development, said Melissa Aldridge, Assistant Director of Development, could use volunteer help for the Friends of the Lake 5K, to be held April 16, the Saturday before Easter. Volunteers will be placed along the walking path to watch for traffic and for keeping people on the right course. Volunteers need to be there fifteen minutes early for assignments.

Nancy Hood said that Melissa Tinsley, horticultural expert, needs help on April 29 to load and unload plants at the Nanci Weldon Open-Air Gym. She also needs help with sales on Saturday, April 30. This is for the Annual Plant Sale.

Nancy Hood called for committee reports.

Judy LaFontaine noted the Flea Market was just two months away. Set up will be Friday, June 10. The Flea Market will be Saturday, June 11. The Junaluskans are buying a new tent for the camping and sporting goods area. Dianne and Mike Pass are in charge. Other volunteers are needed to help them.

Jan LeMasters said that the Travel Committee is planning for dinner at Bocelli's and going to see the show, *All Shook Up*, at the Hart Theater on Saturday, May 21.

Vespers will be Sunday, April 10, in the Chapel. John Scott, faith sharer, will be our speaker.

Margaret Amick, membership secretary, gave several points of clarification. The Junaluskans email service and Frank Sith email are the same service. Membership forms are distributed in many ways. Only need to turn in one form and membership dues. There are other organizations such as LJAPOO and The Associates. Paying for one of these memberships does not cover all three.

Melba Hanson spoke on behalf of the Prayer Ministry. The ministry group will be sponsoring a National Day of Prayer on May 5, at 10:00 am, at the Cross. Parking will be at the Lambuth.

Diana Foederer said that on Tuesdays at the Library, there will be Books Alive. This is a book review session, open to all.

Grace Gattis reminded the group that Art in Place starts April 10 and goes through May 10. You can still sign up to participate. Volunteer lawns are available if you have art you wish to display. She is also taking memberships for Fellowship Groups. New groups will meet in the Fall.

Linda Varner, acting President of the Junaluskans Woman's Club, said that the traditional tasters' luncheon and meeting will be held Monday, June 13.

Nancy Hood said that next month's Junaluskans General Meeting will be at 10:00 am, in The Harrell Center.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,
Evelyn Correll
Recording Secretary