

MINUTES – Raisin Township Cemetery Advisory Committee Meeting

Raisin Township Hall – Tuesday, August 18, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Donna Andre and Kathy Smith

Absent: Heather Franco

Township Supervisor Deb Brusseau was present at the beginning of the meeting.

Conversation with Deb Brusseau:

Township Staff Action Items: (These are action items we have developed for Deb Brousseau and/or Adam Cesarez.)

1. Priority goals:

- **Hire surveyors** to define and/or verify the land boundaries of Raisin Presbyterian Cemetery on Sutton Road. There has been increased interest in interments here and an accurate survey has become more relevant.
- **Quit Claim Deed and survey** for McLain Cemetery – We wish to be good stewards for the neighbors next to our cemeteries.

2. Chandler Cemetery

- Deb said she would have conversation with David Lacasse regarding the easement change we've discussed for the Chandler Cemetery driveway.
- Deliver mulch and spread within the fenced area.
- Repair split-rail fence.

3. Bench placement at Sutton

- Donna and Kathy placed a marker on the southeast corner of the driveway where the bench will be placed.

4. D2 Chemical

- We've asked Deb to order another 5-gallon jug of D2 to continue cleaning headstones.

5. Cremain Interment

A woman had inquired about future interment of her cremains. She wondered if we have a columbarium. She also wondered about being buried near her great grandparents at Raisin Presbyterian Cemetery. Kathy shared photos of the area of their burial with Deb. Deb will contact the woman.

Last month's minutes were reviewed.

R.T.C.A.C. Reports

1. The Raisin Township Bi-centennial took place on Sunday, August 9th. A boulder with a plaque on it was uncovered and a tree planted for the occasion. Deb Brousseau shared information about the township, Kathy Smith shared early history of the township, Heather Franco shared information about the cemeteries and our work, and Donna Andre dressed and played the part of Laura Haviland. Cake and, of course, raisins, were served. Music was provided by "Marcus & Tiffany", firetrucks and equipment were out for the kids, as well as a bounce house.

2. The next community workday at Raisin Presbyterian Cemetery is scheduled for Thursday, October 1 from 5:00-7:30 p.m. This will be posted on our Facebook page as well as the R.T. website.

3. Written requests were turned in to Deb for placement of the bench at Sutton, order for D2, and maintenance of fence and mulch at Chandler.

4. Kathy will create a binder containing all meeting minutes from R.T.C.A.C. meetings since November of 2023 when our committee was formed by Tom Hawkins.
5. A few cemetery maintenance pamphlets were shared. There was an idea of having photos taken of cemeteries from above by a drone. Donna will check with someone she knows to see if this would be beneficial. The many trees may create an issue for photography of the areas.
6. We would like attend the November 9th Raisin Township Meeting to share what our committee has accomplished, as well as some of our goals for the future. Donna will check with Amy Marr to see if she and her family can attend so we can recognize them for their "Taps Across America" musical offering at the Raisin Presbyterian Cemetery.
7. We will contact Past Preservation to inquire about possible training sessions for fixing and maintaining headstones.
8. Kathy reached out to Chris Sherman, from the D.A.R., to see if there were any plans for fixing the Revolutionary soldier's headstone at McLain.
9. A book, Combined Atlases of Lenawee County, Michigan , has been loaned to us. It has a lot of historical information about Raisin Township, specifically information about the Comfort Mill and its historical significance.

Our next Raisin Township Cemetery Advisory Committee meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2026 at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathryn Smith