

September 19, 2023

Hello neighbors! We invite you to check out the newly redesigned Crossings on the Potomac (“Crossings”) website, which we hope will be a “one stop shop” for any of your needs for official Crossings information.

What’s the difference between the Crossings website and the Crossings Facebook page?

The Crossings website and the Crossings Facebook page are complementary resources. The Crossings website is an official communications medium sponsored by the Crossings Board of Directors (BOD). Content has been approved by the Board of Directors. The Crossings Facebook page was created and is administered by volunteer members of our community. It is an unofficial forum filling an important role in connecting the community and a great resource for things like day-to-day community matters, time-sensitive announcements, asking for recommendations for service providers, organizing community events and the like.

What changed on the website?

The redesign had several goals:

- improve the security of the site to protect personal information and sensitive content
- post new content for both property owners and third parties (prospective buyers or others who wish to interact with Crossings)
- enhance record keeping
- facilitate communication

The site is not yet complete. From a presentation perspective, the home page has not yet been redesigned and there is still work to be done on formatting throughout the site. Functionally, we will continue to work on some longer term goals related to facilitating communication and enhancing record keeping. But the most important user-facing, content-related features are largely complete. We want to roll it out now to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to review the Annual Meeting documents prior to the Annual Meeting on October 22, 2023. Details concerning the Annual Meeting will be provided later this week.

All of the content that existed previously (governing documents, marina and gate information, construction documents) is still readily accessible, now organized under three easy to navigate tabs:

1. General Information (accessible to any web user),
2. Property Owners only, (requires a user login), and
3. a “How do I...” FAQs page.

There are multiple ways to find information; we hope that all users find at least one method that is intuitive/works for them. Note that there are 2 versions of some pages—a public facing version and the property owners only version.

New content includes:

- **Annual Meeting documents** (2022 documents are now posted; 2023 documents will be posted by September 22nd and an announcement to that effect will be made).
- Directories of Crossings property owners, which are accessible only to registered Crossings members (Note: names, addresses, and lot numbers are a matter of public record. Email addresses and phone numbers are not. If you do not want your email address or phone number to appear in the directory, please contact the Secretary.)
- A Community Management page including contact information for Board of Directors members and volunteers supporting the community in other ways
- An Announcements section on the home page, which includes notice of upcoming BOD meetings.
- Enhanced security for community members who volunteer their services and have their personal email addresses on the site; all private addresses are now behind the Property Owners only tab and not visible to the general public (or scammers).
- Board of Directors meeting minutes and other communications from the Board. Some have already been added; others will be added as time permits.

Owners will also now be able to help us maintain accurate records by keeping their own contact information current (instructions below).

ACTIONS REQUIRED by property owners:

1. To get started, simply sign up on the Crossings on the Potomac website. You may be asked to confirm your email as part of the sign-up process; if you do not receive it, please check your junk/spam folder. If you have any difficulties, please contact the Crossings Secretary at secretarycrossingsonthepotomac@gmail.com.
2. Once you have created your account, please go into “My Account” and ensure that your contact information is correct. (You can access “my account” where the login button is; it will be accessible there once you’ve logged in).
3. If you do not want your email address or phone number to appear in the Directory of Crossings property owners (accessible only to registered Crossings members), contact me at secretarycrossingsonthepotomac@gmail.com.

We have not yet completed the Terms and Conditions page or the Privacy Policy, both of which are currently in draft and will be published within the next few weeks. If you have any questions in the meantime, please ask.

The Board hopes that you find that this new site meets your Crossings on the Potomac information needs. I have done what I can to test drive the site and asked a few members to do likewise, but I am not a professional website developer. Please contact me if you have suggestions or notice any errors.

Gypsy Phillips
Secretary
Crossings on the Potomac Property Owners Association