The Council’s By-Laws provide for a Board consisting of thirty-five Directors (plus the President, ex officio), divided into five classes of seven Directors. Each class serves for a term of five years. In each class, three Directors are elected by the membership and four are appointed by the Board.

Directors with terms expiring on June 30, 2013, were Alan S. Blinder, J. Tomilson Hill, Alberto Ibargüen, Shirley Ann Jackson, Joseph S. Nye Jr., George Rupp, and Richard E. Salomon.

The Nominating and Governance Committee was composed of Mary McInnis Boies (Chair), Madeleine K. Albright, David G. Bradley, Anne M. Finucane, Nancy A. Jarvis, Kenneth I. Juster, Maria Elena Lagomasino, Edward J. Mathias, Jami Miscik, Pamela S. Passman, Theodore Roosevelt IV, Stanley S. Shuman, G. Richard Thoman, R. Keith Walton, and Christine Todd Whitman. On December 3, 2012, the Chair invited the Council membership to propose possible candidates. The Nominating and Governance Committee met on February 25, 2013, to consider the pool of names suggested by Council members for the three elective vacancies. Mindful of its mandate to consider “the need for diversity with regard to age, sex, race, geographical representation, and professional background,” the Nominating and Governance Committee developed the following slate of nominees for the Class of 2018: Byrone Auguste, Zoë Baird, Evan Bayh, Alan S. Blinder, R. Nicholas Burns, and Cesar Conde. On April 3, 2013, Council members were notified of the slate and of the petition process available to them in accordance with the By-Laws. No petition candidate was put forth. A ballot was sent to all Council members on May 1, 2013.

The Annual Meeting, at which votes would be cast for the election, was originally scheduled for June 4, 2013. As participation by members in the election was low, a quorum would not have been met on June 4, so the Chair of the Nominating Committee authorized an extension of the voting and adjourned the Annual Meeting to June 10, 2013. At the meeting on that day, 1,715 members participated in person or by proxy, fulfilling the quorum required by By-Law V, though at 36.7 percent participation, turnout remained low. No name was written on thirty or more ballots cast at the meeting, and, therefore, no one was nominated for the 2014 election by the write-in procedure outlined in the By-Laws. Sarah A.W. Fitts, Ernest T. Patrikis, and Nancy Young served as election overseers. The following nominees were elected for five-year terms beginning July 1, 2013, and expiring June 30, 2018: Zoë Baird, Alan S. Blinder, and R. Nicholas Burns.

At its June 13 meeting, the Board appointed four Council members to serve five-year terms as Directors in the Class of 2018, beginning July 1, 2013, and expiring June 30, 2018: Laurence D. Fink, J. Tomilson Hill, Shirley Ann Jackson, and Ruth Porat. The Board also appointed Steven A. Denning to the Class of 2016 to fill a vacancy created by Board member Penny Pritzker stepping down.