



Summary of the 441st Meeting of the Governing Board  
Thursday, 13 June 2023, 10:30 a.m. to 12:45 p.m.

**Welcome of New Board Members [3]**

- President Deborah Landey welcomed the three newly elected members, Ms. Pilar Fuentes Conte, Mr. Jay Pozenel and Ms. Gulden Turkoz-Cosslett.

**Election of Officers [4]**

- John Dietz spoke of the importance of continuity in the role of President and the challenges that being the President of AFICS/NY entailed while at the same time rewarding as it means serving both the Association and UN retirees in general. He felt that in her first year, Deborah Landey had been an excellent President, with new ideas and proposals. He noted she had been very active and engaged with the UN leadership. She had also been re-elected as a Vice-President of FAFICS. AFICS/NY had always been and continues to be a very active member of FAFICS. He then proposed that Deborah Landey, having done an excellent job, be re-elected as President of the Association.  
To do so, he indicated that under Article V, paragraph 4, of the By-Laws it is required that the President and other AFICS/NY officers be members of the Governing Board. Due to the term limits established in Article V, para. 1, Ms. Landey's consecutive service for nine years as an elected Board member ended in May 2023. Under Article V, para.2, of the By-Laws, by a majority vote the Governing Board can appoint up to five additional Board members for terms of a maximum of three years. The Board's own Rules of Procedure add, in Rule 2.10, that the additional Board-appointed Governing Board members would normally have one-year terms, but these one-year terms are then renewable by the Governing Board in subsequent years, at the Board's discretion.
- Under these provisions of the By-Laws and following a precedent agreed by the Board when the same situation arose a few years ago, John Dietz proposed that the Governing Board appoint Deborah Landey as an additional Board member for a period of one year. The proposal as outlined by John Dietz was endorsed by Jay Karia and supported by a number of Board members. This was agreed by the Governing Board as was the subsequent proposal for Deborah Landey to be re-elected President of AFICS/NY, with one member of the Governing Board voting against.

- Michelle Rockcliffe expressed concern and disappointment with the process and felt there were other capable members of the Board who could take over the Presidency of the Association.
- Ms. Landey accepted to serve as President of AFICS/NY and suggested the following slate of officers: Darshak Shah as 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-President; Nancy Hurtz-Soyka as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-President; Mac Chiulli as Treasurer; Vera Rajic as Secretary; and Marianne Brzak-Metzler as Deputy Secretary. The slate of officers was seconded by John Dietz and agreed to by the Board.

#### **Annual Assembly and Reception debrief [5]**

- After Ms. Landey's initial welcome comments, Jerry Barton, FAFICS President, addressed the Assembly via video.
- USG Catherine Pollard, representing the Secretary-General, and USG Atul Khare spoke to the Assembly and answered questions from the participants. Others who presented included Mr. Bill Wilkerson and Mr. David Penklis from the Pension Fund and Mr. Genc Osmani from the Health and Life Insurance Section.
- Mr. John Lewis, CEO of UNFCU also made a presentation and replied to queries from retirees on the operational issues faced by UNFCU to which Mr. Lewis explained the operations were improving as new staff had recently been hired and trained.

#### **FAFICS Updates [5]**

- The FAFICS Council meeting of 63 member Organizations would be held next month in Vienna. AFICS/NY would be represented by Deborah Landey, Darshak Shah and Nancy Hurtz-Soyka.
- The Co-Chair of the FAFICS Standing Committee on Pension Issues (Suzanne Bishopric) was in the process of drafting six papers for the Council session. She would also be participating in the Council's session.
- The FAFICS Bureau Working Group on Communications had prepared a document on the new FAFICS Communications Strategy which would be discussed by the Council.
- Elections would be held for one Vice-President and the Secretary for FAFICS.

#### **Other business [6]**

- **Show of solidarity for UN retirees in conflict countries:** Following on a recent Governing Board proposal for some sort of message of solidarity to be sent to retirees in conflict countries, Deborah Landey informed the Board that this matter had been brought up at the recent Bureau meeting of FAFICS and President Jerry Barton had supported the idea.

- **AFICS/NY Rules of Procedure:** A review of AFICS/NY 's current Rules of Procedure was proposed in light of the activity already included in the workplan in connection with the proposed change to the biennial Governing Board elections. Jay Karia agreed to convene the group until a Chairperson was appointed. .
- **Marie-Christine Helene:** It was announced that Marie-Christine Helene, former Staff Counsellor of the UN, had passed away last year. She was a key player in the establishment of AFICS/NY as initiated by Alfred Landau. She was also a driving force in getting AFICS/NY to a place of acceptance at the Pension Board. Over the years she had resolved many problems for many grateful staff. A moment of silence was observed in her honor.

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