

2024 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM A: The General Service Board should develop supplemental reporting focused on the actual costs of the various service items we provide, with an initial draft being brought back to the Conference Committee on Finance for review at the 75th General Service Conference.

Background:

1. Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) Submission Form - PAI 41
2. Memorandum from Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee to Conference Finance Committee

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(1) Submit a clear and concisely worded motion. PAI #41

The General Service Board develops supplemental reporting focused on the actual costs of the various service items we provide, with an initial draft being brought back to the Conference Committee on Finance for review at the 75th General Service Conference.

These reports should include information such as:

- Budgeted cost
- Any changes to the budgeted cost
- Estimated total cost

Additionally, the relevant parts of the new report(s) would be included as background information for any agenda item listed in the report(s).

(2) What problem does this proposed item address?

The intent is to provide better insight as to what our various services cost and better inform the fellowship of where our contributions are being spent.

As we begin to increase our creation of online materials (podcasts, apps, Instagram accounts, etc.), they come with more long-term costs such as server fees, development costs as platforms evolve, and ongoing content creation, to name a few, and this will only increase over time. While these tools have wide popularity amongst the fellowship, many of them, such as The Meeting Guide app, are free but can come with significant costs.

(3) What level of group conscience, if any, discussed the proposed agenda item? Make it clear who is submitting the item (an individual, group, district, area, etc.).

Note: While all items are received equally, experience has shown that ideas greatly benefit from the value of a broader group conscience. Consider if and with whom you would like to have a group conscience discussion on the proposed agenda item prior to submitting.

I am submitting this on behalf of Area 47 Central New York, which passed it unanimously at our assembly on June 11th.

- Christopher M. Area 47 Delegate

(4) Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:

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(5) What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?

If approved, new reporting would be developed to communicate better the costs of the services being provided to the fellowship.

Additionally, the relevant parts of the new report(s) would be included as background information for any agenda item listed in the report(s).

(6) Provide a primary contact for the submission.

Christopher M.
Area 47 Panel 73 Delegate

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(7) Final comments:

Another Area opted to discuss this PAI to provide some more information that may be of potential benefit. They did not have their assembly until after Area 47 held our vote, so I'm including their input here. (They were clear from the start that they would not be voting on it simply because they were not involved in its creation)

- Revenue #s for items we sell (and identify "free" items, perhaps separate sections priced items vs. free items)
- Reporting on the item's origin (advisory action, staff idea, board decision, etc.)
- Reporting on any draws from the reserve fund for any item (both historical and prospective)

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Memorandum

November 29, 2023

To: 74th General Service Conference
From: Zenaida Medina, Secretary to Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee
Re: Proposed Agenda Item 41

At its October 29, 2023 meeting, the Trustees Finance and Budgetary Committee (TFC) of the General Service Board (GSB) considered Proposed Agenda Item (PAI) 41, a request that the GSB develop supplemental reporting focused on the actual costs of various service items, with an initial draft being brought back to the Conference Committee of Finance (CFC) for review at the 75th General Service Conference. The Committee agreed to forward this PAI to the 74th General Service Conference.

The TFC requests that the CFC consider:

- Which service items to report on
- The frequency of reporting (quarterly or annual)
- The level of detail reported (summary or line item)

Suggestions for service items to report on include but are not limited to:

- Development of certain new literature titles
- Cost of certain capital projects such as software, app, and website development
- Maintenance cost of software, apps, and website
- International services

Background

The following service costs are currently reported to the General Service Conference as part of the audited financial statements, which are also available upon request to any member of the Fellowship:

- Literature Development and Distribution
- Communications
- Group Services
- Public Information
- Cooperation with the Professional Community
- Treatment/Accessibility
- Correctional Facilities
- Loners and Overseas Services
- General Service Conference
- Regional Forums
- Archives
- Nominating
- World Service Meeting
- Grapevine

- La Viña

Thank you.

cc: Robert Wilcox, General Manager
Diana Lewis, Conference Coordinator

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