Conference Committee on Finance

General Service Conference - Conférence des Services généraux - Conferencia de Servicios Generales

2026-04-27 08:00 - 2026-04-28 12:00 EDT

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2026 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM A: Review Self-Support Packet.

Background: Self-Support Packet Contents

1. E.doc. 1 – Self-Support Card	Item F-42
2. E.doc. 2 – Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix	Item F-3
3. E.doc. 3 – The A.A. Group Treasurer	Item F-96
4. E.doc. 4 – A.A Guidelines on Finance	Item MG-15
5. E.doc. 5 – Your Seventh Tradition Contributions Flyer	Item F-203
6. E.doc. 6 – AAGV/La Vina Self-Support Flyer	Item F-230
7. E.doc. 7 – Birthday Contribution Envelope	Item FR-5

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2026 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM B: Discuss motion to add wording to Item F-3, "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" (PAI 99).

Background notes:

Excerpt from the November 2025 trustees' Finance and Budgetary committee meeting report:

> *The committee considered a revision to "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" and **agreed to forward** to the 76th General Service Conference the proposed agenda item (PAI 99), which states: "Motion to add this wording to the pamphlet 'Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix' on page 13 immediately following the Samples of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities pie charts:*
>
> *A.A. Grapevine and La Vina do not accept contributions. They are supported by sales of subscriptions, books and other specialty items. When your group is discussing how to distribute contributions to A.A. service entities, please consider how you may support Grapevine/La Vina. Purchasing subscriptions for your group, gift subscriptions, books or specialty items is a great way to support Grapevine/La Vina."*

Background:

1. PAI #99 submission form

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Finance
Item B
Doc. 1

(1) **Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.**

Motion to add this wording to the pamphlet "Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix" on page 13 immediately following the Samples of Group Contributions to A.A. Service Entities pie charts.

A.A. Grapevine and La Vina do not accept contributions. They are supported by sales of subscriptions, books and other specialty items. When your group is discussing how to distribute contributions to A.A. service entities, please consider how you may support Grapevine/La Vina. Purchasing subscriptions for your group, gift subscriptions, books or specialty items is a great way to support Grapevine/La Vina.

(2) **What problem does this proposed item address?**

While the Q & A on page 12 states that AA Grapevine, Inc. is not set up to take contributions, there is no suggestion to consider supporting Grapevine/La Vina when supporting other service entities.

AA Grapevine and La Vina have not been fully self supporting. Print subscriptions have consistently declined for Grapevine.

When making contributions to service entities, many AA Groups have never considered the spiritual nature of including Grapevine/La Vina.

(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.

This idea is an answer to a question Albin Z. posed during a Grapevine presentation at the 69th GSC. I'm paraphrasing but it seems to me the question was "what does the seventh tradition look like regarding A.A. Grapevine"? It came to me sometime later, but for several years now, at Grapevine events I have been making the suggestion that when your home group is deciding how much to contribute to service entities, please consider how to include Grapevine. Our Delegate heard me make this suggestion recently and said that I should submit the idea as a PAI for the next GSC.

A motion was composed and presented to the Not So Secret Service Manual Study Group of whom I am a member. After support, discussion and a vote it passed unanimously. The motion was then made at the following District 7 Business meeting. After support, discussion and a vote it passed unanimously. The motion was then made at the August 2025 Area 34 Assembly. It was supported and after discussion and an amendment the motion as currently written was voted on and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by Richard P.
Supported by the Not So Secret Service Manual Study Group

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(4) **Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:**
F-3 Self-Support: Where Money and Spirituality Mix A.A. Grapevine Inc. has been operating in the red for several years. La Vina has never been self-supporting. At the 2025 East Central Regional Forum, our GSB Chair stated that Grapevine received $350.000 from the Reserve Fund this year. The Grapevine Publisher stated that if subscriptions could return to pre-pandemic levels, Grapevine would be self-supporting.
(5) **What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?**
A greater awareness of how A.A. Grapevine and La Vina are supported. A suggestion to include support for A.A. Grapevine and La Vina when seventh tradition contributions exceed expenses. The intention of increasing A.A. Grapevine/La Vina subscriptions and sales of items produced. The intention to move A.A. Grapevine and La vina toward being fully Self-supporting.
(6) **Provide a primary contact for the submission.**
Richard P.
(7) **Final comments:**

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2026 Conference Committee on Finance

ITEM J: Consider a request to create a Twelve Steps study guide or workbook.

Background notes:

Excerpts from the December 10, 2025, interim meeting of the trustees' Literature Committee meeting report:

> The committee reviewed the proposed agenda item (PAI-70), "For the General Service Office to create a service piece or workbook study guide to the Twelve Steps." The committee **agreed to forward** PAI-70 to 76th General Service Conference.

Advisory Action of the 35th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

> The previous Conference actions regarding the Fourth and Fifth Step study guides be reaffirmed — i.e., there is no need for Fourth and Fifth Step study guides, as existing literature adequately covers these matters.

Advisory Action of the 24th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

> The trustees' Literature Committee explore the need for a pamphlet guide to taking the Fourth and Fifth Steps.

Advisory Action of the 13th General Service Conference:

It was recommended that:

> The need for a study guide to the Steps and Traditions or a condensed Twelve Steps book be explored and a report brought back to the 1964 Conference.

***Staff note**:*

> GSO's Legal, Licensing and Intellectual Property Department reports that from January 2024 to December 2025, the office received 24 requests from individuals seeking permission to create a workbook or study guide for *Alcoholics Anonymous*. All requests were denied, in keeping with the Advisory Actions noted above.

Background:

1. PAI-70

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(1) **Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.**
For the General Service Office to create a service piece or workbook study guide to the 12-steps.
(2) **What problem does this proposed item address?**
"Currently, there is no Conference-approved 12-step guide specifically designed to work the steps. While there are many helpful books available that address the steps, none focus solely on them. A Conference-approved guide dedicated to the 12 steps would be a valuable resource for members seeking structured support in working the steps. Literature that is NOT A.A.-Conference approved, is not permitted behind the walls."
(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.
Following a pre-conference delegate report back, many incarcerated women expressed a desire for a 12-step guide from New York to help them work the steps. As a result, it was decided that Cari Z., Proxy GSR, would submit a motion to the Oregon Area 58 Assembly in May 2025. The motion was tabled, taken back to groups for discussion, and ultimately passed at the September 2025 Assembly.
(4) **Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:**
Our Delegate brought us a Pre-Conference presentation, and the women were thrilled to be included in the process. During the discussion, they shared how challenging it is to find sponsorship, as many women lack someone to guide them through the steps in a detailed and easy-to-understand way. This inspired the idea of submitting a motion to Oregon Area 58, encouraging all groups in Oregon to discuss the proposal and bring it back to the Assembly for a vote. The motion passed!
(5) **What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?**
The intended outcome of this proposal is to create a 12-step Guide or service piece that provides a structured learning tool to help individuals, particularly those in challenging circumstances such as incarceration, work through the 12 steps effectively. This guide would address the expressed need for an outline to follow, as sponsorship is often difficult to access in such environments. By offering a practical and accessible resource, the guide aims to enhance the

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ability of AA members to engage with the 12steps, fostering personal recovery and growth. Additionally, it would align with AAs mission to support alcoholics who still suffer, ensuring inclusivity and accessibility for all members.
(6) **Provide a primary contact for the submission.**
"Cari Z.
(7) **Final comments:**
"We recognize the value of the PLBB in reading and learning the program; however, many members still need additional support in actively working the steps. A Conference-approved study guide would be especially beneficial for individuals in remote communities and for sponsors seeking additional tools to guide others through the steps. This resource would provide structured assistance and enhance the ability of members to engage deeply with the program. In 2023 the Literature Committee reviewed a proposal for a study guide focused on the BB or the 12x12 Steps and Traditions. The committee recommended prioritizing the completion of the currently approved projects before taking on new materials. We hope this proposal will be considered as the future project."

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2026 Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions

ITEM B: Consider a request to discuss the location of the General Service Conference (GSC) (PAI-22).

Background notes:

From the November 2, 2025, trustees' General Service Conference Committee report:

The committee considered a proposal to "initiate a study to identify a less costly location for the General Service Conference" and agreed to forward to the 2026 Conference Committee on Policy & Admissions. The committee noted that estimated costs, both for financial and human capital, would be beneficial information to share. The consideration and review of a similar topic at the 73rd General Service Conference and as estimate on the timeframe to recoup expenses would be important elements of informing a group conscience.

2025 *Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:*

In keeping with a request from the 74th General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admissions, the committee noted the February 11, 2025, memo update from the general manager to all Conference members on site selection and dates. The 77th and 78th General Service Conferences will be held at the New York Marriott Marquis hotel in New York City. The 77th General Service Conference will take place April 11-17, 2027. The 78th General Service Conference will take place April 23-29, 2028.

The committee reviewed the dates for the 2029 General Service Conference. In order to provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select these proposed dates for the 79th General Service Conference, as follows (in order of preference): April 29 – May 5, 2029; April 15–21, 2029 and May 6–12, 2029. The committee noted that these proposed Conference dates are the best choices available for avoiding conflicts with significant holidays. The committee asked that all Conference members be notified of the final dates for the 79th General Service Conference as soon as they are finalized by GSO management.

From the December 17, 2025, GM memo to Conference members:

"As requested by the 75th General Service Conference Committee on Policy/Admission, I am notifying the committee and all Conference members that the site selection and dates for the 79th General Service Conference are finalized.

It is with great enthusiasm that I'd like to inform you that the 79th General Service Conference will take place April 15–21, 2029 at the New York Marriot Marquis hotel located in the heart of Times Square in New York City."

2024 Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed the dates for the 2029 General Service Conference. In order to provide additional flexibility to the General Service Office management in contracting the most cost-effective and appropriate venues for the General Service Conference, the committee agreed to select these proposed dates for the 79th General Service Conference, as follows (in order of preference): April 29 – May 5, 2029; April 15–21, 2029 and May 6–12, 2029; The committee noted that these proposed Conference dates are the best choices available for avoiding conflicts with significant holidays. The committee asked that all Conference members be notified of the final dates for the 79th General Service Conference as soon as they are finalized by GSO management.

2023 Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed the GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection. The committee appreciated the detailed analysis of the costs and logistics of holding the Conference at sample facilities in four of the eight regions. The committee is not requesting a site selection report from the general manager in 2024, recognizing that contracts have been executed with hotels in the New York area for 2024, 2025 and 2026, and that site selection for the 2027 General Service Conference could be impacted by the results of the Location Plus Committee and possible relocation of the General Service Office. The committee is requesting that the trustees' General Service Conference Committee conduct a survey of current General Service Conference members regarding the spiritual implications of holding the Conference outside the New York area. An additional option to explore in the survey could be alternating between holding the Conference in the New York area and the Akron/Cleveland area. The committee looks forward to reviewing the survey results or a progress report at the 74th General Service Conference.

2022 Policy/Admissions Committee Consideration:

The committee reviewed the GSO general manager's report regarding General Service Conference site selection, noting with appreciation the level of detail regarding specific sites considered. The committee requested that the next site selection report provide detail on the financial, logistical and spiritual implications of holding the General Service Conference at other locations throughout the eight regions of the U.S./Canada service structure, perhaps in rotation with the New York City metropolitan area.

Conference Advisory Actions Regarding General Service Conference Site Selection:

2017 - General Service Office management submit a report on the process, implementation and status on the site selection of the General Service Conference for review by the 2018 Policy/Admissions Committee.

2008 - The responsibility for General Service Conference site selection be delegated to General Service Office management, subject to approval of the General Service Board; and that a report be forwarded to the 2009 General Service Conference.

1991 - The 1992 General Service Conference annual meeting be held in the city of New York. (Floor Action)

1970 - The General Service Office have the right to choose the hotel for the 1971 General Service Conference without conferring further with the delegates to the Conference. (delegates-only meeting)

1969 - In as much as GSO is now giving consideration to relocation of the office in New York, consideration might also be given to the relocation of the site of this annual meeting, with a view to returning to single-room accommodations, so that the advantages of private meditation, study, thought and rest might be restored. It was further suggested that the rising costs of the annual meeting might be controlled, or at least reduced, by a study of possible alternative hotel accommodations. (delegates-only meeting)

1956 - The proposal that meetings of the General Service Conference be "rotated" from New York City in even years to a different geographical section in odd years be tabled for consideration at some future date.

Current Conference Charter excerpt:

9. The General Service Conference Meetings: The Conference will meet yearly in the City of New York, unless otherwise agreed upon. Special meetings may be called should there be a grave emergency. The Conference may also render advisory opinions at any time by a mail or telephone poll in aid of the General Service Board or its related services.

Background:

1. PAI-22
2. 2023 GSC Site Selection Report
3. Link to 2023 Conference *Final Report* (See Location Plus presentation) https://www.aa.org/2023-general-service-conference-final-report
4. Link to 2024 Conference *Final Report* (see Location Plus presentation) https://www.aa.org/2024-general-service-conference-final-report

(1) **Submit a clear and concisely worded motion.**
This motion is to initiate a study to identify a less costly location for the General Service Conference. This study should be of the depth and thoroughness of the Location+ study performed to determine the location of the General Service Office. An outside firm should be engaged for this purpose.
(2) **What problem does this proposed item address?**
The ever-rising cost of the GSC. The rising cost is unsustainable and hard earned Seventh Tradition funds are being used to cover these costs. The resulting savings would free up Seventh Tradition funds for groups to better carry our life saving message.
(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.
The Beginners Group of District 82/Area 67 discussed and approved this item unanimously. The District 82 Committee of Area 67 and the District 40 Committee of Area 67 discussed and unanimously approved this motion. The Area 67 Assembly thoroughly discussed and approved this PAI unanimously.
(4) **Provide background information that describes and supports the reasoning for the proposal. List background material(s) included with the proposal:**
The estimated cost of the 75th General Service Conference is $10,250/Area. The cost of the 74th GSC was $9250. Note that the price for the 75th GSC is only an estimate. It is likely to be higher. Even if the forecast is accurate, it represents a 10.8% increase. This rate of increase year over year would result in a cost of more than $17,000/Area for the 80th GSC. The cost of transportation to and from New York City airports is very high. The cost of hotel rooms and hotel services in New York City is very high. A hotel near a major airport hub would reduce airfare for many attendees Transportation costs to and from the airport would be negligible due to the availability of airport shuttles. Alcoholics Anonymous would also realize significant cost reductions for hotel rooms and services.
(5) **What are the intended/expected outcomes if this proposed item is approved?**
Curtailing the rapidly rising cost for the GSC would allow more of the fellowship's hard earned Seventh Tradition contributions to be used for carrying our lifesaving message.
(6) **Provide a primary contact for the submission.**

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Rick. M.
(7) **Final comments:**
Thank you for your consideration of this PAI. It is my sincere hope that the rapidly rising costs for the General Service Conference can be mitigated.

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2026 Staff Note: This document contains minor edits to note corrected/outdated information.

2023 General Service Conference Site Selection Report
(Presented to the Policy and Admissions Committee)

The 2022 Policy and Admissions Conference Committee requested that the next site selection report provide detail on the **financial, logistical**, and **spiritual** implications of holding the General Service Conference (GSC) at other locations throughout the eight regions of the U.S./Canada service structure, perhaps in rotation every other year with the New York City metropolitan area.

GSO's Meeting, Events and Travel (METs) team randomly chose two locations within each of the eight regions. When possible, one was chosen in a more metropolitan area and the other in a more rural area to get a sense of cost comparison and balance with logistics.

Several facilities have either not responded or do not have the capacity to accommodate our specifications. However, we received data from facilities in four of the eight regions: West Central, East Central, Eastern Canada and the Northeast. Although the GSC is not particularly large, the number of breakout rooms necessary is a challenge for many venues to accommodate. Also challenging is that the hotel industry is experiencing severe staffing issues, making it difficult to obtain pricing and proposals. The data gathered within these four regions still provides a strong sample of financial and logistical details to draw conclusions as to the feasibility of hosting a GSC outside the New York City (NYC) metropolitan area.

Financial

Appendix A illustrates a comparison of actual expenses from the 2022 GSC to projected costs derived from proposals received. GSO's CFO, in collaboration with the MET's team, developed this comparison. Some points and assumptions worthy of mention are as follows:

- **Travel**
  Conference members – Included in this line are 12 GSO Staff, director of Staff services, general manager, GV publisher and the Grapevine Committee secretary.

Commented [RJ1]: I change this from 11 to 12 from the original 2023 background

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GSO support staff to Conference – 40 other support staff are included in this line, ranging from the full METs team, technology support, directors and department heads, and other logistical support from Office Services. This is the average number that have attended and supported the last three in-person Conferences.

GSO support staff site visits – Three site visits throughout the year: Two would include two members from the METs team and the Conference coordinator, the 3rd visit would include the general manager.

The trip to GSO/Stepping Stones was removed in the regional columns.

- **Meals**
  Meals for site visits and early arrival during Conference week for support staff to set up. At least eight staff (METs, Technology & Office Services).

- **Lodging**
  Additional lodging costs are added for site visits and the early arrival of support staff (8). You will also notice an increased amount in the regional columns for "Support Staff During Conference" (40).

- **Other**
  Equipment rental would be necessary, as these locations are too far to ship our copier and printers. Postage and shipping also reflect increases due to the distance to ship items as well as shipping technical support equipment otherwise carried to hotels within NYC.

  This comparison and summary represent our best estimates and assumptions that hosting a GSC within the eight regions would entail. Hosting an actual Conference would be the only way to understand and know the actual needs, so it is likely every assumption has not been considered.

Logistical

Planning the GSC is a yearlong process. Planning a Conference outside NYC from the GSO would present challenges due to unfamiliarity of the area and the need be on-site for set-up, planning and workflow. This would require multiple site visits; the financial projections estimate a need for at least three site visits but more may be necessary, particularly without experience to draw from. The METs team and several other staff support from Office Services would have to arrive early to set up the workroom and other areas of the facility.

Shipping from a distance would require more detailed arrangements compared to the services we use to transport our equipment and supplies to local hotels in NYC.

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Although the properties used in this report are for illustration purposes, it is plausible that an actual hotel could be situated on an airport property and would be easily accessible with little or no transportation needed. Transportation between the airport and hotel may be complimentary through shuttle service.

Many locations throughout our structure are not in proximity to major train routes which some participants annually choose as a means of transportation. This would exclude certain areas from the possibility of hosting. Bus service may pose a similar challenge.

Hosting outside NYC would demand all supporting office employees are onsite throughout the duration of the Conference. When held in NYC, many employees go back and forth from their homes and the office.

IT set up and support would lose the benefits of the close proximity of the office if certain supplies were needed for special circumstances, e.g., extra cables, equipment swaps, etc.

Spiritual

To address spiritual implications of holding a GSC outside NYC, I arranged a dedicated GSO Staff sharing session. The following is a summary of points from the sharing session:

- Planning is more nimble when it's close to the office, e.g., site visits, supplies, etc. Collaboration between Staff assignments and departments would likely be compromised.
- Concerns of the principle of participation being compromised, i.e. non-Conference member staff support from various departments not being allowed to travel to participate.
- If we found a less expensive location in our structure, we would have money to spend on other spiritual services.
- The decision to move shouldn't be related to a desire to move the office.
- If part of the motivation is for a better location than NYC, unity on alternate locations is unlikely. Rye, NY is a good example of this. Some liked it and some didn't.
- The Conference would miss out on Stepping Stones and GSO visits during Conference week. Visiting the office during Conference weeks was one of the reasons the early members chose to meet in NYC. ***2026 Staff Note*:** Any attendee visiting Stepping Stones will do so at their own expense.
- International observers would miss out on the Fellowships history tied to NYC.
- Similar to international observers, some area delegates would feel left out of the NYC experience and history of the Fellowship.

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- The history of the Conference being held in NYC has been a central part of a long history of unity and comradery among area delegates, trustees and Staff. I'm concerned that would be difficult to duplicate in other locations.
- Where money and spirituality mix melds financial, logistical and spiritual matters. If there are logistical or financial challenges due to hosting within the regions, it will create spiritual difficulties.
- Many past and present delegates share a sentiment that their Conference experience was enhanced by being in NYC and a move away from that would potentially bear a spiritual cost.
- Would the principle of inclusion be challenged? The idea of hosting the GSC within our regional structure in a rotation with NYC would not allow wide area involvement as the GSC specifications limit hotel availability to a limited number of geographic locations.

Archives Research

The Archives Department provided a sample of historical references to this topic:
"*We are now trying to develop some fair method of regional representatives which could bring delegates to New York once a year to sit down in a joint session with our Headquarters people, following which, the Service Conference would make a report to the Groups on the state of the Headquarters and A.A. in general."*

Letter from Bill W. to Fred C., December 1, 1947
"After a lot of thought, I am beginning to think we have an answer – at least a partial one. The conference can't be too big, it can't be too small. It can't ever be a political or governing body. Just a bunch of sane A.A.s who will sit down and see whether things are going all right in New York and make a report on it. I think that's all we shall ever need."

Letter from Bill W. to Jimmy B., December 11, 1947:
"Each Delegate will serve two-year term, will always be available for mail or phone consultation with A.A. Headquarters, and will twice attend the General Service Conference which will be held in New York City to coincide with the regular April meeting of the Foundation."

"Your Third Legacy" pamphlet, pages 7-8:
"They [Delegates] will become closely acquainted with each other and with our Headquarters people. They will visit the premises of the Foundation, Grapevine, and Service Headquarters. This should engender mutual confidence. Guesswork and rumor are to be replaced by first-hand knowledge."

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"Your Third Legacy" pamphlet, page 8:
Conference Discussions:
In October 1955, the former GSB Policy Committee discussed a suggestion from two delegates, to pursue the "possibility of having alternating sessions of the General Service Conference in cities other than New York." Further, "this would be done in odd years, thereby giving each delegate a chance to visit Headquarters in even years."
Some of the "cons" expressed by the board were:

- "Bringing the necessary staff and personnel from Headquarters to these different cities."
- "Delegates would lose the benefit of going through the office."
- "This would mean changing the Charter of the Third Legacy."

The proposal was discussed at the 1956 General Service Conference but was tabled for consideration at "some future date."

In 1962 the GSC "rejected a proposal that the 1965 General Service Conference be held in Toronto, Canada." It was the sense of the meeting that the "proposal, in addition to placing a serious burden on GSO manpower and facilities, would deprive 1965 Conference delegates (particularly those of Panel 15) of the opportunity to become more familiar with GSO's world service operations."

Conference Booking (Catching Up)

In the 2022 report, I explained we would begin catching up on securing dates and venues for the Conference after the necessary pause due to the pandemic. With a pandemic no longer posing a risk to contracting hotels for the Conference, I have brought us up to date and alignment with the Advisory Actions pertaining to Conference booking and have executed contracts with the New York Marriott at the Brooklyn Bridge (Brooklyn Marriott) through ~~2026.~~ RFPs were sent to several hotels in the NYC area. Similar to the challenges outlined in the regional RFP's, we experienced difficulty locally obtaining accommodation for our specs and receipt of proposals. The dates and locations are as follows:

April 14-20, 2024
~~April 27-May 3, 2025~~
~~April 26-May 2, 2026~~

2026 Staff Note: The GSC was held at the Brooklyn Marriot through 2024. The 2025 and 2026 GSC location: Midtown N.Y. Hilton. The 2027, 2028 & 2029 will be held at the Marriot Marquis, Manhattan

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Suitability of sleeping and meeting rooms

The Brooklyn Marriott meets our standards and needs to host the Conference in a manner that supports past practice, meeting formats and schedules. It has been assessed for safety, quality, and service.

Summary

The financial data gathered clearly shows it's possible to find venues within our structure that are more cost effective than NYC. That said, if there was a rotational schedule included with hosting a Conference outside NYC, a question to consider may be "would all areas have the option to be included and participate?" Also of note would be consideration of Bill's and others spiritual thoughts on this question to host a GSC outside NYC; "*Just a bunch of sane A.A.s who will sit down and see whether things are going all right in New York."* Or this thought from "Your Third Legacy" pamphlet: "*They will visit the premises of the Foundation, Grapevine, and Service Headquarters. This should engender mutual confidence."* Logistics certainly have pros and cons also. The pros of venues outside NYC offering the possibility of ease access from airports to hotels and the cons of planning from a distance, no access to office tools during Conference week, unfamiliarity of the area, considerable number of staff traveling and site visits throughout the year taking staff away from other work.

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***2026 Staff Note*:** Below reflects the expenses at the time of the 2022 site study and is being kept in the report for historical background and not a reflection of current costs.

Appendix A - GENERAL SERVICE CONFERENCE EXPENSES - GENERAL MANAGER SITE SELECTION REPORT

TYPE OF EXPENSE	2022 BROOKLYN	WEST CENTRAL	EAST CENTRAL	EASTERN CANADA	NORTHEAST
EXPENSES WHICH VARY BY SITE					
Travel					
Conference Members	80,000	91,440	88,860	86,461	87,956
GSO support staff to Conference	9,200	35,200	27,260	19,880	24,480
GSO support staff site visits	0	8,500	7,000	5,500	6,500
Interpreters	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500	7,500
Appointed Committee Members	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900	2,900
Trustees Emeriti	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100
Trip to GSO	2,100	0	0	0	0
Subtotal Travel	*102,800*	*146,640*	*134,620*	*123,341*	*130,436*
Meals					
GSO support staff site visits	0	750	750	750	750
GSO support staff setup	0	1,536	1,536	1,536	1,536
Opening Dinner	54,900	19,500	19,500	25,400	21,500
Coffee and Beverage Service	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000	36,000
Continental Breakfasts	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000

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All Other Lunches, Dinners, and Breaks	310,900	244,800	190,100	282,200	241,900
Subtotal Meals	*405,800*	*306,586*	*251,886*	*349,886*	*305,686*
Lodging					
GSO support staff site visits	0	1,590	1,750	2,670	1,890
GSO support staff setup	0	3,816	4,200	6,408	4,536
Conference Members	291,000	171,720	189,000	288,360	204,120
GSO support staff during Conference	15,300	50,880	56,000	85,440	60,480
Interpreters	10,200	7,632	8,400	12,816	9,072
Appointed Committee Members	1,600	3,816	4,200	6,408	4,536
Observer	3,000	1,272	1,400	2,136	1,512
Trustees Emeriti	3,800	2,544	2,800	4,272	3,024
Subtotal Lodging	*324,900*	*243,270*	*267,750*	*408,510*	*289,170*
Other					
Audio Visual	150,700	150,700	150,700	150,700	150,700
Equipment Rental	0	4,000	4,000	4,000	4,000
Postage and Shipping	15,300	17,800	18,300	27,300	17,800
Subtotal Other	*166,000*	*172,500*	*173,000*	*182,000*	*172,500*
SUBTOTAL VARIABLE EXPENSE	**999,500**	**868,996**	**827,256**	**1,063,737**	**897,792**
CONSTANT REGARDLESS OF SITE					
Professional Fees					
Editorial Services	6,900	6,900	6,900	6,900	6,900
Committee Assignment Software Support	500	500	500	500	500
Photography	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,300	4,300

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Two Past Staff to support Conference Assignment	9,800	9,800	9,800	9,800	9,800
Document Translation	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Interpretation	20,700	20,700	20,700	20,700	20,700
Subtotal Professional Fees	*142,200*	*142,200*	*142,200*	*142,200*	*142,200*
		0	0	0	0
Printing, Postage, and Supplies		0	0	0	0
Supplies	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200	19,200
Equipment	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700	1,700
Printing Final Conference Report	36,300	36,300	36,300	36,300	36,300
Other Printing	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800	5,800
Subtotal Printing and Supplies	*63,000*	*63,000*	*63,000*	*63,000*	*63,000*
SUBTOTAL CONSTANT EXPENSE	**205,200**	**205,200**	**205,200**	**205,200**	**205,200**
GRAND TOTAL EXPENSE	**1,204,700**	**1,074,196**	**1,032,456**	**1,268,937**	**1,102,992**
Variance to 2022 Actuals		(130,504)	(172,244)	64,237	(101,708)
Conference Members	133	135	135	135	135
Cost Per Conference Member	9,058	7,957	7,648	9,400	8,170
Change from 2022 cost per member		(1,101)	(1,410)	342	(888)

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