On May 21 Ken Goldberg and I attended the Ulster County Library Association (UCLA) zoom meeting.

The meeting began with a presentation from Niche Academy in Utah explaining the uses and benefits of the “learning platform” for the local libraries. UCLA has a single subscription to the platform and I think the directors were looking for ways for them to get better use from it.

UCLA representative on the SSAC Margie Menard presented the SSAC proposal to increase the contributions from individual libraries to MHLS by 20% in 2025. She explained that the SSAC had considered several different scenarios and finally, after discussion, settled on recommending the 20% increase to the full DA at their June meeting. The discussion was spirited and of course no “decision” was reached since the issue is one decided by the DA itself, at which time every director will have a vote. Rebekkah did report on the history of the amount of the library’s contributions for the last ten years—they have remained almost flat and far from kept up with inflation.

Other UCLA local matters were considered and dealt with efficiently.

Stuart Auchincloss