Democrats Abroad-Guadalajara Annual Meeting Minutes  
Saturday, February 16, 2019  
5:00 – 7:00 pm  
Avenida de Las Rosas 2975, Colonia Chapalita

33 people attended, including several invited guests from the Chapala DA chapter, Frank Rodriguez from the American Society, speaker Ed Tasca, and others.

Board member attendees were Will Chapman, Cam Esser, Will Prescott, Michaele Rivera, Hector Duenas-Pena, Rick Rice, and Elaine Halleck. Jude Wallesen was unable to attend due to illness in her family.

1. The meeting began at 5:11 pm with a welcome by Will Chapman.

2. The Minutes of the June 23, 2018 Annual Meeting were read by Cam Esser and approved.

3. Will Prescott summarized the Treasurer’s Report. Detailed income and expenses may be obtained from Will. He noted that most income is by donations.

4. The Chairman’s Report was given by Will Chapman. The motion was made and approved to set new goals to increase dual-national memberships.

5. Will Chapman gave the Year in Review Report. He explained the roles of the various committees: GOTV, Communications, Membership, Fundraising and Programming. Michaele noted the extra effort put forth in out-lying villages to secure more dual national registration and participation. Will reviewed the year’s activities, the successful election night gathering at the American Society and board retreat. Our goal is to build membership and activate our current membership. Membership has increased this past year from 180 to 273 members.

6. It is estimated there are 750,000 American citizens living now in Mexico, with approximately one-third to one-half under the age of 18. The pool of potential Democratic voters is immense and will be the target of our various registration efforts.

7. Brigit Bauer gave the board election results, with all candidates voted into office. The motion was made and approved to accept the voting results. Jude Wallesen is the new Chair.

8. A short break followed. Ed Tasca was introduced as our speaker. His speech “On the Coat Tails of Lincoln” was a thoughtful and humorous discourse on how Democrats should approach the future with optimism and was well received. Comments from the audience followed.

9. Will Chapman gave closing remarks on behalf of the new chair, Jude Wallesen.

10. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 pm.

11. A reception with light refreshments followed.