**The Yizraelite - No 2093 Date: 10.2.2023**

**Kibbutz Yizrael**

**Translated and edited by Eddie Solow**

**Edi-torial.** Voting on the "work-related cars" begins Sunday 08:00. If you read through this edition, you will find plenty of references to the subject. (Which you can ignore if you have made up your mind - ED)

It's been 15 years since we debated this issue. I certainly hope this is the last time.

**Thank You from the Blass Family**

We would like to thank you for being with us and supporting us during mother's illness.

To the building staff for suitably organising the house to assure the utmost comfort for our parents over the last months.

To Yifat Assaf and Erez Peleg for listening and helping in every area.

To the staff of the clinic and especially to the angels, Liran Pen and Margalit Levy, - who supported and helped in everything and accompanied our mother and us until the last moments, with compassion and respect.

To Yitzchak Peleg for taking care of the funeral arrangements

To Einan Grosser and the mourning committee who with humanity and sensitivity offered, brought, baked and prepared, arranged and cleaned during the "Shiva."

To Kobi Levy and Rinat Chicorel - who helped us find the care givers, Mirvat and Ruby - who took care of mum with devotion and love.

To all the chaverim, who accompanied us during the difficult period.

And finally, to all the members of the Yizrael community, in appreciation for the participation, the warm words of comfort on the sidewalks and inside the house, for the look and support always and especially in the past week.

We felt the power of the special community in which we live.

Wishing everyone health and longevity.

Steve, Yifat, Adi, Tamir, Rotem and the families

**Voting on the Subject of Work - Attached Vehicles.**

The ballot will be held from Sunday, 12/2/23 from 8:00 a.m. until Monday, 13/02/23 at 1:00 p.m.

The wording of the proposal, as decided at the asefa:

Employers, the management of Maytronics and the managers of the corporations in the kibbutz, will be able to provide a vehicle at their discretion (without the condition of need). The amount to be charged monthly - NIS 350 per month, both for outside workers and workers in the kibbutz corporations (including Maytronics). Spouses of work-related vehicle users will not be charged.

With regards to the size of the car and the conditions of receipt, the procedure for outside workers will apply to all members of the kibbutz with work-related vehicles.

AsefaCommittee

**Conditions Relating to Outside Workers' Vehicles**

**From the outside workers procedure:**

a) The details relating to a work vehicle provided by the employer, will be agreed upon, in advance, with the employer.

b) The acceptable car level on Yizrael for a member receiving a car from the employer will be the value of up to the amount of NIS 3,200

c) Any proposed change in level must be approved by the coordinator of the outside worker's branch. Approval will be received after taking into consideration the salary level and the number of children. If the Outside Workers Committee does not approve, the member may be charged for the additional deduction from his allowance.

d) A member who receives a car from the employer will conduct himself according to the decisions of the kibbutz.

e) As a general rule, the goal is that car expenses should not exceed 20% of the gross monthly salary.

**Pesach Gifts - Purim is Coming and our Hearts are Looking Forward to Pesach**

Passover gifts for the community/agriculture/maintenance workers will be in the same format as in the last holidays, but with more options for choosing a gift and/or a gift card.

Those who are interested in receiving the Passover gift as money in their allowance (NIS 350) are requested to inform us by Sunday, 12/2/23 via WhatsApp message to Hedva or Irit Cohen … or by phone or mail.

Hedva Sharabani 0523756328

Irit Cohen 0523756032

**What to do in the Event of an Earthquake.**

**If you are in a building**: the following order of priorities must be followed:

(1) Go outside into an open space

(2) Enter the reinforced room (mamad)

(3) Shelter in a stairwell

(4) Take shelter under a heavy piece of furniture or in the corner of the room

**If you are in a vehicle:** stop and wait in the vehicle. Avoid stopping under a bridge, on an interchange and near buildings.

**If you are outside:** stay in an open area and stay away from buildings, trees and electricity poles.

**At the beach:** move away from the beach to a distance of at least one kilometer, or if there is no time go up to the fourth floor of a building or higher.

**Gathering area:** In the event of an earthquake accompanied by destruction - the gathering area on Yizrael is on the lawn next to the stage.

We all have ways of breaking down and letting off steam, so does Mother Earth. Recently it seems as if it is really angry and precisely in our area...

**In the event of an Earthquake**: Everyone's responsible, first of all, for himself and his family. I urge you to get organised and prepare a box in the most protected place in your home. Put a few bottles of water in the box, some snacks and games for those with children, some cans and crackers, a flashlight and batteries - in case you need it.

You should practice calmly, especially with the children:

Where are the emergency supplies? Where should you run to? It is important to know that an open area is the safest. Be careful of exposed electrical wires and falling trees.

In phase two, and only in the case of a strong earthquake accompanied by destruction, you must go to the kibbutz assembly area which is on the lawn near the stage. Before you leave the house, equip yourself with warm clothes in the winter and those who can, please turn off the gas tap in the kitchen (Or at the tank outside your house, which is safer– Ed).

At the assembly point we will take stock of the situation. Those who are able to help others, will be directed to search and rescue missions as needed.

For your information, we have teams who know what to do. They have practiced, providing help in emergency situations. They will of course be activated, if necessary. You are welcome to join and lend a hand.

**Earthquake Warning App:** For those interested - there are several earthquake warning apps of the Home Front Command, (Pikud Ha-oref). You can download them to your mobile phone and receive a life-saving warning.

You are welcome to contact me, I will do my best to respond to the collective emergency needs.

 At the time of writing this, the Emergency Response Committee of the kibbutz is meeting so we will be prepared.

Lilach Ron Harpaz, Defense and Community Emergency Committee.

**Duty Shifts - the New App – Ortal Zaltsman**

The ezshift app has been successfully upgraded. The app is new, accessible, convenient and much more diverse. You will find in it, a variety of options that were not available until now, such as, the option to request a replacement from a specific operator and a variety of more convenient options.

How to connect to the new app:

In the existing app, a link appears at the top of the screen, clicking on it will connect to the new app.

We will continue to optimise and upgrade the Toranut interface app, and make it a practical and accessible tool to use.

I will be happy to be at your service at any time.

Best regards, Ortal Saltzman



**Wed. 8.2.23**

**Rainfall from the beginning of December 2022: x mm**

Rainfall from the beginning of the 2022 - 2023 season: x mm

Multi-year average to date: 311 mm

As compared to the multi-year average to date: 299 (+4%)

**Rainfall Table**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Month | Sep | Oct | Nov | Dec | Jan | Feb | March | Apr | May |
| Total | 0 | 18 | 2 | 44 | 105 | 92 |  |  |  |
| Average | 0.38 | 16 | 51 | 99 | 111 | 80 | 52 | 19 | 5 |

Daniel Rosenfeld – Manager of Agriculture

**Economic Council Report - 30/01/2023**

Council Chairperson: Sigal Hadar

Present: 25 council members

Agenda: Community Budget 2023

Erez Peleg opened and presented the process of building the budget, which was different from what was customary in previous years. The budget was built from the bottom up, with the managers of the branches and clusters presenting work plans to the community management, and the budget was built on this basis.

Erez also reviewed the trends that characterised the management of the 2022 budget and the end of year estimate of a deficit of NIS 350,000. In addition, he detailed the budget framework available to us in 2023 and emphasized that considering the different budget construction process, it would be incorrect to compare the 2022 plan to the 2023 plan.

Maor Parsai presented the breakdown of the current budget, emphasizing the places where structural change was made and a different view on budget management. He also presented the table of sources and uses and the investment plan according to the funding sources in the funds.

A discussion was held on the structure of the budget.

Decisions made (the amounts are not listed here, they can be obtained at the secretariat)

1. Approval of an additional credit limit for 2023

2. Approval of the community's overall budget framework for 2023

3. Approval of the investment framework according to the presented plan.

4. Investments to buy new vehicles for the vehicle pool will be up to the amount of the transport branch's resources, without taking additional loans.

Ariel Brin Dolinko submitted a reservation regarding the increase in the members' budget. He suggested that the budget should increase according to the increase in the money index of the past year.

A vote was held, and it was decided to increase of the members' allowances to 3%, that is: an addition of 1.7% beyond the original proposal.

Considering the increase in the members' allowances by an additional 1.7%, the community management was asked to present its proposal for adjusting sections of the community's budget, to cover this, and to bring the updated plan to the approval of the Economic Council.

Summation: Erez Peleg

**Back to the Black Flags Protest – Chanan Shaliv**

**This Shabbat – 11.2.23**

**16:30 – 17:30**

**Outside the kibbutz entrance**

**Invitation to (Another) Economic Council + Asefa**

**Monday, 13.2.2023**

**Time: 19:30**

**Agenda** - 19:30 Economic Council:

1. Approval of the community budget 2023

2. How to approve investments in the community

**20:30 - Asefa:**

Presentation of the topic of the association's alternative and discussion… Should we enter the process?

Invited: Dagan Yar-el

Asefa Committee and Council

**"Google translate is not so great"**

…. And today's contribution:

***דנית דובדבני קירשברג***

***Kirschberg cherry Danish???***

**צוות חג ט"ו בשבט:**

The Twelfth Holiday team in Shvet***?***

**Report from the Asefa - Monday 6.2.2023**

Chairman of the meeting - Eddie Solow

Secretary of the asefa - Shlomo Cohen

Present - 39 members

**On the agenda: Work-related vehicles**

Opening remarks by Yifat Assaf: A work -related vehicle for Maytronics workers is etched in our community's collective memory as a traumatic issue. Therefore, when representatives from the management of Maytronics approached us to ask that we put the issue back on the agenda - we had quite a few concerns about reopening the wound, which had finally healed. We asked for time. And time was given to us, generously.

It was important to us as management, to lead the community in the current process, so that we cross this overflowing river safely, and come out of it safely, even strengthened. We tried to act clearly and transparently in our discussions until a democratic decision is made by the public.

In 2010, a decision was passed via ballot, which in fact, already allowed Maytronics to give a car to the employees, at the company's discretion. Maytronics, understanding the sensitivity of the issue in the community, chose nevertheless, years later, to ask for our approval. This, although they did not have to do so. We feel grateful for this thoughtful approach to the sensitive subject.

Since then, we have been through a long process that lasted over a year, and included conversations with members in different sections, to hear a variety of opinions, ad hoc meetings, four committee meetings of the community management, reports in the newsletter, an open meeting and tonight, an Asefa. Here too, as in other topics discussed recently, the opinions are divided, and the points of view are different.

The community management went through a process and debated the value of equality in the cooperative kibbutz, and about the equality of labour in particular. We discussed work benefits, employee retention, about work motivation and more. At first, we linked the possibility of receiving a vehicle to the **need** to get to the office located outside the kibbutz. But after the open meeting and further listening to the public's concerns, we decided that we would recommend to the asefa to remove this condition and allow each employer in Maytronics and agriculture to decide according to his discretion.

I wish us a respectful discussion, which will heal the wound, and that we will cross the river safely together.

Yifat presented the decision of the asefa from 2010 as well as the process carried out in the community management, with the various officials in Maytronics and in cross-sectional conversations with representatives from the public.

Questions were asked about voting.

Ariel Delinko proposed we vote on the community management proposal as one unit.

Phil Adler asked who is considered an employer for Maytronics workers. Yifat replied that the management of Maytronics and not the kibbutz.

Nitzan RF asked how the amount of NIS 350 was arrived at. Erez replied that they relied on the existing procedure.

Nitzan is against Ariel's proposal - most of the process was in the management of the community, the public was not given the opportunity to express its opinion with the exception of one public open meeting. The proposal comes in three separate sections because each section stands on its own. One does not depend on the other. There is no reason to vote for one unit.

Erez - the community management has no objection to voting as one unit.

**Yitzhak Peleg**. The last section that deals with spouses is not relevant, so it would be advisable to remove that proposal.

**David Mittelberg** - There is confusion here between a point of order of the debate and the manner of voting.

**Yifat Assaf** - The community management was unable to reach agreements and that is why the community management held a vote on each section separately. The voting results are brought to the meeting in an open manner for discussion. There is no problem voting on the community management proposal as one piece.

**Eddie Solow** explained that we have to decide now whether to vote on all the sections as one piece.

**Maor** - The decision regarding the amount of the mobility component will be made later.

**Erez** - initially we only thought of technically defining the mobility allowance. Then we thought that there should be a real sum of money added. We will discuss this in preparation for the 2024 budget.

A vote was held on Ariel's proposal for order: the vote on the various sections will be carried out as one unit, as published in the Alon.

**The proposal was accepted:**

**In favour - 58, Against - 46, Abstentions - 2**

**Shimon Zelas** - I want to reply to all those who wrote in kehilanet. We are a cooperative kibbutz and want to stay that way. But that doesn't mean everything is equal. There is equal opportunity for members, not absolute equality. Those who work at Maytronics will work in a nicer office than the one I have in the kibbutz. They enjoy branch parties and trips abroad, etc. and this is part of the working conditions. The same is true for certain office bearers on the kibbutz, etc. It is part of the working conditions. I think that if we do not recognise that there is equal opportunity, we should know that there won't be full equality. We don't all contribute equally either. Then there won't be equality in working conditions either. There are those who need more and will receive more.

**Uri Gilad:** In the open meeting, the idea was discussed whereby the same conditions as the outside workers' cars would apply. That it won't just be at the discretion of the employer. So that a situation does not arise where a member has a low salary and a big car.

**Arnon Matalon** - I congratulate the community management that came up with this proposal after a long process, studied what was said at the open meeting and changed its proposal. The real debate happens on the Kehilanet and before the vote you can post support there.

**Uri Gilad** submitted an amendment - the standard cost for the value of a car and for receiving a car will apply to all members of the kibbutz according to what is formulated in the outside workers' procedure (See Page X – Ed)

A vote was held on Uri's amendment:

**The amendment was accepted:**

**In favour- 61, Against - 10, Abstentions 4**

The wording for the ballot vote will be prepared with reference to the amendment and proposal for order, which were accepted, and will be published in the Kehilanet and the Alon.

The ballot vote will be held on Sunday and Monday next week.

Shlomo Cohen

**Report from theEconomic Council**

**The 'Kapro Israel' Deal**

February 2023

Participants: Council members - 29

Officials - 7 and other members

Summary of the transaction

a) The total transaction - NIS 71,000,000 - for the purchase of 45% of the 'Kapro' company from Kibbutz Kaderim.

Kaderim will remain in the company with 55% of all holdings.

B) Predicted and expected dividend - 50% of the net and distributable profit will be distributed to the owners - predicted flow of about NIS 3-4 million/year

C) Financing - the recommendation is about 60-65% loans (40-45 million NIS), foreign capital for the transaction and the balance from equity.

Economic parameters were presented.

In the discussion that developed it was explained by the members of the holdings management that despite the relatively high price, the deal is super interesting, suitable and strategic to the right extent for Yizrael Holdings.

**A vote was held in the Economic Council:**

**In favour - 25, Against - 1, Abstentions - 1**

Recorded by: Sigal Hadar, Ron Cohen

**Call for Public Representatives to the Executive Committee**

The (official) term of office of the public representatives in the executive committee has ended.

 Thanks to David Mittelberg, Nitzan Rivlin-Feldman, Natasha Tchernichovsky and Elad Ilan - for fulfilling the role since the days of the previous mazkirut and later - in the executive committee.

Soon there will be an election for new public representative members.

The selection process for the public representatives will be subject to the decisions of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, according to which there will not be a "regulating committee" (i.e., a search team that checks suitability for the position and filters), but it will be possible to vote for each committee member (Any member can run for office – Ed). Each voter will choose four candidates.

The four members who receive the most votes will be elected.

The vote will be conducted through the Kehilanet at a date that will be announced in advance (all details regarding the vote itself will be published)

Note that the executive board is the only body in the kibbutz that has a legal obligation to conduct itself in this way, due to it being the most central body elected by the asefa.

The management committee deals with the strategic issues of the kibbutz, long-term planning, the kibbutz regulations and more. It is not involved in the day-to-day running and management of the kibbutz.

In addition to the 4 public representatives, 4 office bearers sit on the committee: the chairman of the committee, the secretary of the kibbutz, the manager of holdings and the manager/representative of the reserve fund.

Membership in the executive committee requires regular attendance at the meetings that will be held - once a month at 2:00 PM - 5:00 PM. Before the meetings, committee members are obliged to prepare and read background material.

Membership in the committee involves personal authority and responsibility, including the performance of various tasks within the committee's activities.

Duration of term: two years

Jeremy Perling - Chairman of the board of directors

Kinneret Govrin - Director of H.R.

Yifat Assaf – Secretary

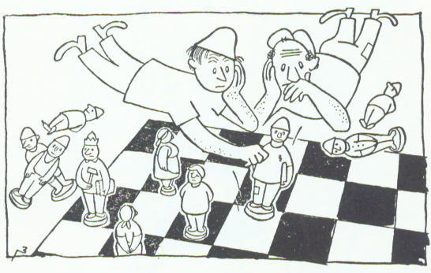
**From the Nominations Committee Desk**

**Nominations for the Composition of the Education Committee**:

Coordinator: Momi Cohen (previously elected by the asefa)

Peter Pezaro (continuing member)

Shlomo Kamilian (continuing member)

Danit Kirshberg

Revital Zelas

Rotem Agmon

Philippa Segal

**Summary of the Community Management meeting – 5.2.23**

Present: Ilana Peleg, Erez Peleg, Yifat Segal, Yishai Levy, Kinneret Govrin, Limor Griman, Maor Persai, Kobi Levy, Shlomo Levy, Tamir Blas, Yifat Assaf.

Absent: Stas Gavrilov, Inbal Adler

**1. Continuation of the food branch process following the ballot vote** - following the decision from the ballot vote in which the following pathway was accepted:

"In-depth examination of a cooperative route with controls and financial solutions for extreme cases and Friday meals", we must now decide how to proceed.

It was decided that a team will be formed, based on community management members to prepare the pathway in a detailed manner for the final ballot.

The team members will be: Erez Peleg, Maor Persai, Tamir Blass, Itzik Shechter, and an external consultant. The community management asks the team to report back within one month.

**2**. **Updating the community budget following the economic council** - at the last economic council, an amendment was approved, according to which the amount transferred to the members' budgets will increase. Therefore, we must find a way to reduce the community budget, and the services provided, respectively. Several options for cutting the budget were discussed. Since the community's budget is already tight, any budget cut will inevitably hurt the service. A discussion was held, whether it is more correct to reduce the large budgets, where the damage will be felt less, or to make horizontal cuts.

It was decided: to cut one and a half percent from five large budgets: administration and general, health, food, communication, building and maintenance. As part of the work on cutting the budget and balancing it, the health Eshkol budget was updated for the benefit of operating the archive and documentation team

**Proposal for conduct regarding the approval of investments to be made for a small amount** - in the Economic Council, a proposal was brought by Maor to allow " administrative freedom" regarding investments up to the amount of NIS 500,000. The council said that an orderly proposal should be brought to address the matter. There was a discussion on the subject, how to allow some space for the managers, without the need to return to the Economic Council with every small or big thing, and yet maintain maximum transparency and control.

It was decided: to recommend to the council to accept the following offer.

A budget framework for all investments **will be approved by the Economic Council**

All investments submitted under "consumer investments" will be presented in a detailed list, approved as one unit within the approval of the annual budget.

Investments that are not included in the framework of "consumer investments" will be submitted and approved individually, subject to the definition of a budgetary source and subject to the following exclusions:

A) Investments up to 250,000 NIS and which appeared in the list of investments presented to the council, can be made after approval by the community management + publication in the alon, and on condition that no appeals are lodged.

b) Investments up to 150,000 NIS, which did not appear in the list of investments presented to the council, can be made after approval by the community management + publication in the alon, and on condition that no appeals are received.

Erez Peleg and Yifat Assaf

**From the Preventative Medicine Sub-Committee…**

**Preventing Falls**

 Falls are prevalent in the older population (but not only) and pose a threat to independence and quality of life.

 Statistically one out of 3 older people falls at least once a year.

 Listed here are the potential risks around the home and how to correct them.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Correction** | **Risk** |
| 1. Roll up and remove from the home – preferable choice. 2. Add anti-slip material to the back of the rug. | Rugs / Carpets |
| Get them off the floor and attach to wall / skirting. | Electrical cords |
| Repair or remove from the home. | Unstable furniture |
| Replace bulbs. Leave light on at night. | Inadequate lighting |
| Repair of broken stair(s) and / or handrail.  Add handrail both sides. | Stairs - a) broken, b) unstable handrail, c) lack of handrail |
| Anti-slip bathmat. | Wet floor - bathrooms |
| Shoe with a suitable anti-slip sole – not Crocs! | Washing the floor |
| Consult with family physician | Medical status – eg. reduced vision, balance distubances. |
| * Get up slowly from a lying position and sit for a few minutes before standing. * Make use of nearby stable furniture for support as necessary. * Installation of handrails where necessary. (next to the toilet, shower) | Postural changes   * Lying to sitting * Sitting to standing * Standing from the toilet |
| Wear shoes / sandals that are closed around the heel.  Use of suitable approved walking aid. (Make sure the rubbers on sticks and walking frames are not worn down.) | Walking inside the house and outside |
| Appropriate, prescribed exercises | General muscle weakness and / or balance disturbances |

 Falls can be prevented by proper arrangement of the home environment and appropriate physical activity.

 An investment of at least 10 minutes of daily basic exercises can contribute to improving/maintaining balance, improving heart/lung endurance, maintaining muscle strength, preventing falls and of course, improving quality of life.

In addition to inspecting and making your private home safe, the vigilance of all of us in our daily lives is also important in the public areas of the kibbutz - you must pay attention to things that do not necessarily pose a danger to you but can trip someone else up.

For example:

 A small obstacle on the path - a branch, or a stone, which is in the middle of the path - pick it up and remove it.

 Wet floor in a public place - wipe

 Congestion when entering/exiting a public place - give the right of way to older people and / or someone who has difficulty walking

 Chairs around tables in a public place - when getting up, return the chair to the table to avoid someone else tripping over it.

Wishing us good health and safety for all .

Preventive Medicine Team,

Health and Welfare Cluster

(Ed's contribution…Park your kalnoit in reverse when you arrive, then you can easily see the way is clear**. Reversing out is dangerous!**

**The Project to Save the Donkeys of Eretz Israel**

To all those members who don't know me yet: I am Tal Freiman Levy, husband of Noam and father of Guy.

For about 14 years I have been working as a horse veterinarian, on many farms throughout the country.

In addition to my normal work, I accompany, from the day it was founded, the association "Start Over", which is a rehabilitation shelter for animals.

Today, there are close to 1000 animals in the association's shelter, half of which are donkeys. Most of the donkeys arrived at the shelter through requests from citizens, local authorities, the Israel Police and the IDF, after most of them were rescued from a life of slavery of pulling wagons.

Besides pulling wagons, an equally common phenomenon in recent years is traders who collect donkeys and sell them to Gaza. There, as soon as the donkeys weaken and collapse from the load of pulling the travel wagons, they are transported to Egypt, where their skin is stripped and transported to China for the needs of the leather industry and Chinese medicine.

With great effort, we have succeeded in the last few months in stopping the transfers of donkeys to Gaza.

The association has an important key principle - "they do not refuse to accept and treat a donkey". Following a shortage of money and manpower in the association, we had to find another solution for housing the donkeys.

With the help of the French "La Taniere" association, which offered and was happy to take in donkeys in its shelter, which is mainly a shelter for animals rescued from zoos and circuses, we started the first operation of its kind in the world to fly rehabilitated donkeys to a new life in France.

In recent months we have flown about 200 donkeys to their new home in France. The flight project is very complex, and we have overcome many obstacles, mainly bureaucratic in order to succeed in the journey.

Every donkey chosen to fly underwent medical tests to ensure it was robust and was marked with an electronic chip. The donkeys were divided into groups of 50 and flown in small groups, in specially designated containers.

The flight is in a cargo plane that allows the handler to enter the containers and check the health of the donkeys during the flight. The donkeys' first destination on their journey is Liège airport, where they are checked by a local veterinary team and quarantined to rest for the night. The next day, they continue the 8-hour drive in a special truck to their new home - endless green spaces that will allow them a good and free life.

I accompanied one of these journeys personally, which was a very exciting experience for me. The main excitement stemmed from seeing those donkeys I treated at the association, when they were physically and mentally bruised, get off the truck and run to freedom on huge, protected and safe grass enclosures.

I would be happy to organise a group of all the members who would like to come on a tour of the association. Of course, if there are those who would like to come help and volunteer there, we would be very happy.

For more information about the association "Starting Over" and the flying project, you can go to the website www.startingover.org.il

A picture containing text, person, standing, posing

Description automatically generatedIn the picture: the moment the donkeys were unloaded in their new home.

Tal Freiman Levy, Yizrael Israel, 2023

**On Sinkholes in our Community Life**

Naomi Amit

About two months ago (after the publication of Elad's words regarding the privatization of the dining hall) I wrote a few things about - cooperative kibbutz / equality / solidarity / reciprocity and so on... Since then, every week I debated whether to publish and every time I decided in the negative, because why should I? because what will I get out of it? etc

This week, after the vehicle issue returned to the center of public discussion, I decided it was time to voice my opinion.

So here is my pinch of salt for the dish.

We live here in a kibbutz as if it were a cooperative, but in fact we all long ago forgot what a real cooperative kibbutz is. (Some of us never knew...) The kibbutz is a hybrid kibbutz that has a bit of this and a bit of that. We created a society that is very comfortable for most of the members because our life here allows us to enjoy both worlds via the economic abundance that Maytronics allows us and also to enjoy our private property (for those who have it)

I don't intend to go into examples here of where we behave completely like a privatised kibbutz and the examples where sharing is very important to us (for example the issue of vehicles)

There are gaps between the financial capabilities of the members, but the abundance allows us to turn a blind eye to the phenomenon and solve it by rounding corners, with one-off solutions and the like. We choose to compensate and silence the complainers instead of having an in-depth and serious discussion about the values, truths and principles. The obsessive fear of the concept of privatisation paralyzes us and does not allow an open, respectful and fair discussion on the issue.

Every time the subject of privatisation comes up in one context or another, it is silenced by a sea of slogans, to the point of gagging.

We walk on a land of sinkholes. Every time a sensitive, controversial topic comes up, a sinkhole opens. Sometimes it only brings up murky water and sometimes fire and brimstone. Instead of checking the depth and source of the sinkholes, we return again and again to one-point solutions that buy silence and allow the continuation of the existing system.

It seems to me that some of us are fixed in perceptions that were once, for historical and sociological reasons, very justified and correct, while today we live in the illusion that those perceptions make us a more just, supportive, and humane society.

There are many communities and societies (even in the privatised kibbutzim) where community life - mutual help, support, friendship, guaranteeing each other and culture exists optimally without slogans of sharing and equality, but only because the people chose to live that way. We too can be a flourishing community, with social life and culture with friendship and mutual support, with concern for others even without the cooperative kibbutz mechanisms. On the contrary, when it happens it will be real because we chose it despite everything...

We have built for ourselves a mask of filters and justifications through which we interpret the changing reality and take from it only the parts that are convenient for us and serve us to live a more comfortable life. A life in which there is an acceptance that is not related to and does not require taking responsibility and making a contribution

**They Took it from Me, and I Found It – Shlomo Cohen**

This week, an announcement was published Kehilanet about the finding of a NIS 20 bill in the area of the upper dining room entrance. Amidst a flurry of messages, our Bimba tractor disappeared, or "Who took my umbrella", there is no doubt that this is a refreshing message. Let's put aside for a moment the "I found glasses in car number 32" messages.

In general, in a kibbutz you can leave a bicycle at a certain point and find it there after a month or two. Mainly because you forgot where you parked. Even things you hang on the hook in the dining room will stay there for a long time. Every Saturday evening shift I find boxes with food that people prepared to take home and the box remained on the table.

It happened to me personally that I found pieces of wood on the old rugby field, and they turned out later that they belonged to someone. It also happened that I found a bag in the trunk of a kibbutz car. When I checked with the previous user, he asked: "What's in the bag" and claimed that it was his. It turned out that it belonged to the user in front of him, returned from Tel Aviv and was looking for her lost parcel.

In Jewish law, the mitzva of returning a lost item states that it is the duty of the finder of the item to take action to restore it to its owner. If the loss will not last until the owner is found, then it is sold, and the money is kept for the owner until we know who he is.

In the three pilgrim festivals in Jerusalem, there was a high platform that was used to locate losses. The stage was called "The Claiming Stone", and this is what it is told in the Gemara in the laws of Shabbat Avida:

"Tnu Rabban: There was a claiming stone in Jerusalem. Everyone who suffered a loss was directed there; this one stands and proclaims and that one stands and gives signs and takes it (Talmud Bavli).

In the State of Israel, the law on the restitution of lost property was enacted during the term of office of Golda Meir. The law is in almost complete harmony with the Halacha on this subject. The period determined as reasonable for searching for the owner is 4 months. It will be seen as if he has given up on her and the way out will be to the owner of the loss." Section 2 refers to the search for the owner, notification to the police, etc

How can one know that the person who claims that the loss is his is indeed the owner? In the Gemara, we learn from the verse: "Until your brother demands it " (Deuteronomy 20:2) one should ask for identifying marks and find out. "And why would it cross your mind that they should first ask us? But ask if he is a deceiver or not.

We will return to the kibbutz. If I found money in a public place, I have to look for the owner. You should do this without specifying the amount and the exact location. That way the loser can claim that the money is his. To give signs - a NIS 20 bill, in the upper dining room area, I can claim it's my money. It is impossible to prove otherwise. So Nitzan - we'll meet at the kolbo, you buy me ice cream.



**Touch- rugby team for girls**

The rugby club and the association for breast cancer survivors - are proud to open a tag rugby team for recovering women and women in general.

The team is named after the late Adi Reis, daughter of coach Ron Reis from Megiddo. Ron, a coach at the rugby club for over a decade, will coach the women's team.

All are invited to try a challenging and fun team sport, without physical contact and lots of exercise.

The training is suitable for all ages and all fitness levels. We will practice on the most beautiful field in Israel.

You are welcome to join, to watch, to support, or invite anyone who might be interested

Amir Beutler and the rugby club

**Philo-sophia - Phil Adler**

**Grand Prix**

As part of the seventy-fifth celebrations, we are planning grand prix. Yes, you heard it here first. Formula one right here on the kibbutz – well more like baby formula to be honest but you know what I mean.

What was once only a dream has been made possible by the vision of the Planning Committee and the skills of the Barud brothers. Stage one - race track is complete and now we are ready for stage two – racing.

The track will include the fancy 1004 area (our answer to America’s area 51), It will run all the way to the western gate (for agriculture only) and continue around hakotel (aka Maytronics) and continue to the main entrance to the Kibbutz. At this stage it hasn’t been decided if the gates (the yellow ones now at the same height) will be left open to allow refueling at our petrol station or if drivers will need to use Palgate. Discussions with he who is in charge ofsecurity on the kibbutz and our shiny new security officer are ongoing.

From there the route will make its way under the Nof and Sadot neighbourhoods – members will be asked to park elsewhere during the race. Those not moved will be towed and the race organisers won't guarantee you will be able to park exactly where you were before the race.

The track will then wind its way back to area 51 (1004). The number of circuits has yet to be decided. There will be a decision made in the Transport Committee which will then be presented to the Community Management where it will be discussed a number of times and then they will hand it over to the asefa unless it decided at the last minute to have an open meeting first.

So, who can enter? Anyone as long as you live here and have a current driver's license – one driver per car (babies will not be allowed sit on your lap while racing).

Those of you with work vehicles will not be charged entrance fees and naturally any costs incurred will be covered by your sponsor (employer). If you need special clothing or food allowance just hand your receipts to the outside worker's committee.

Private cars will also not be charged an entrance fee and any costs incurred will naturally be out of your own pocket. There is only one restriction at this stage and that is the color of the vehicle. Orange cars are out – if anyone has one just forget about it. Having said that feel free to lodge a protest with va'adat chaverim if you wish but I don’t like your chances.

The Marshal electric cars can be entered at the standard hourly fee and the kibbutz insurance policy will cover any damage so no worries there.

The kibbutz cars can also be used – we will inform you when bookings open and cars will be allotted on a first in first served basis. Because the cars are being booked for a purpose other than regular use you will be charged accordingly.

Because we are a cooperative kibbutz you like other entrants won't be charged any entrance fees either. Even though the race will be taking place on Shabbat you will be charged at the weekly hourly rate and the price per kilometer will be double the usual price. This is to cover your entrance fees, to help cover the cost of using the radio, USB, air conditioning and wipers (whether they work or not) and to cover potential damage during the race.

We are hoping that next year (because we are a cooperative kibbutz) the cost difference between kibbutz cars and other entrants can be narrowed.



**Almond Blossom Festival**



**Shabbat 25.2.23**

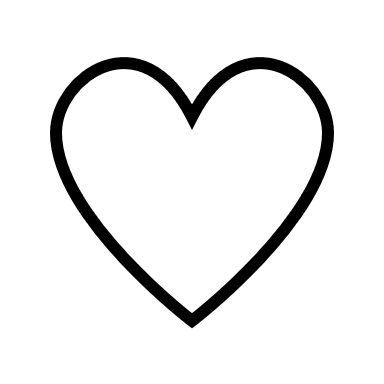
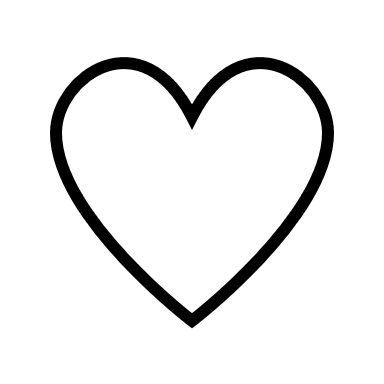
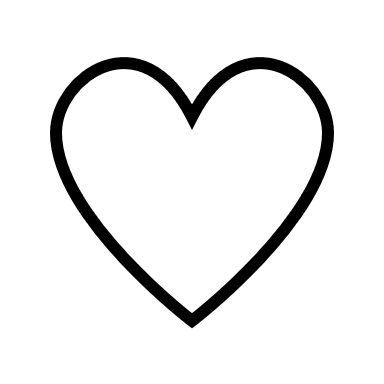
Creativity Corner

Navigation Run

Hay Ride

Pita Oven

Soup, coffee,more…



Tu B'shvat has arrived, a holiday for trees.

Friday, 10.2.23 / 19:00 - Tu B’ Shvat and Shabbat festive meal in the dining room

After dinner - a special evening in the moadon for the holiday

Please note - Saturday's events have been postponed until next week.

Saturday, 18.2.23 Planting Avenue

Along the new western road (from the Arieli family's house towards the area of the new Gadash

10:30

 A ceremony in honor of the event

 Planting and creating signs for trees.

 Tree stories - a tour among the trees growing in our yard, where in the past there is an interesting story related to our community.

Please note - due to the event, the section of the road along the plantings will be blocked from the morning until the end of the event.

The Tu B’Shvat Team

Ella Cohen-Schwartz, Hamutal Assaf, Chanan Shaliv, Limor Keret

**English is Fun - with Rahel**

So here are beautiful words that cannot be translated to English but capture human emotions perfectly. (continued and concluded)

* **Tsunkdok**u (Japanese) The act of leaving a book unread after buying it.
* **Yuge**n (Japanese) An awareness of the universe that leaves you with emotions too deep and mysterious for words.
* **Cafune** (Brazilian Portuguese) The act of tenderly running fingers through someone’s hair.
* **Torschlusspanik** (German) It literally means “gate-shut panic” but is used to refer to the fear of diminishing opportunities as one ages.
* **Wabi Sabi** (Japanese) Finding beauty in the imperfections of life and accepting that everything is constantly changing.
* **Ras Le Bol** (French) To be alone; a deep feeling of despair.
* **Ilunga** (Bantu) A person who is willing to forgive someone’s mistake the first time; tolerate it the second time but never a third time.
* **Koi No Yokan** (Japanese) The feeling of meeting someone for the first time and knowing that you could easily fall in love with them.
* **Yuanfen**  (Chinese) The belief that destiny or fate plays a part in bringing two lovers together.
* **Retrouvailles** (French) The happiness that fills your heart when you meet someone after a very long time.
* **Forelsket** (Norwegian) The euphoria you experience when you are first falling in love.
* **Onsra** (Serbian) The bittersweet feeling that love won’t last.
* **Razliubit** (Russian) To fall out of love.
* **Iktsuarpok** (Inuit) The wait for someone that keeps you looking outside in the anticipation that they would show up.
* **Oodal** (Tamil) The fake anger that couples tease each other with.
* **Gemes** (Jakartanese) The anger that you have inside but don’t have the means to express.
* **Hygge** (Danish) A warm and cozy feeling that washes over you; it needs to be experienced to be known.
* **Ya’aburnee** (Arabic) Both morbid and beautiful at once, it means “You bury me”, a declaration of one’s hope that they will die before another person, because how difficult it would be without them.
* **Saudade** (Portugese) A longing for someone you love but have lost. It is the love that remains.

……………. more next week

**LIMERICK CORNER - Ogden Nash**

**I eat my peas with honey**

**I’ve done it all my life**

**It makes the peas taste funny**

**But it keeps them on the knife.**

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**BEACON ON THE HILL – 12. 2.23 – 17. 2.23**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **SUN**  **12.2** | 7:00 Feldenkrais with Ilana Lahav  09:10 – 12:15 music on zoom with Dr Moti Adler  ***"My love" Hebrew Love songs - Galia*** |
| **Mon**  **13.2** | 9:00 Coffee, cake, chats, and games  9: 30 Sofa Lecture – Chava Alberstein  8:30 Pedicure with Limor Mualem  17:30 Lecture with Merav Falk - Attorney. Last Will and Testament  16:00 – 18:00 Coffee, cakes, chats and games |
| **Tue**  **14.2** | 9:00 Board Games  10:00 Brain Games with Galia  7:00 Exercises with Irit Bahir  16:00 – 17:45 Ceramics with Miki Touz |
| **Wed**  **15.2** | 9:00 Games  09:30 Blooming Nature with Hamutal  17:00 Tai Chi with Einan Grosser |
| **Thursday**  **16.2** | 9:00 Coffee, cake, chats, and games  7:00 Pedicure Naama Baum  10:00 Lecture: Yael Sofer Becker  17:15 Exercises on chairs with Michal Sha’anan |

**From Chazz…with Love**

Van Gogh said, “What the heck! -  
I guess I'd better check -  
bad enough, I fear,  
to lose an ear,  
but now to lose Lautrec....”

