

August 11, 1965

To: T. H. Mecke, Jr.

Subject: Disposition of Glenn Michaels mural in Ford Pavilion

Within the next few weeks we must decide whether or not the Company will donate the Michaels mural to the City of Dearborn for use in the Henry Ford Library.

Here is the background and the present outlook:

The cost of the mural, including installation, was approximately \$8,000. The present evaluation of its worth is about \$12,000, according to the Little Gallery of Birmingham which represents Michaels.

Originally we hoped that the donation, if made by the Company, would have a tax write-off benefit. However, Jack Mullaly determined that the mural has already been expensed as part of the World's Fair Program and the gift would not qualify as a tax-deductible contribution.

Influenced by the prospect of having the mural for the Library, the architect and members of the Dearborn Library Commission have taken considerable interest in Michaels. They have viewed other examples of his sculpture and they are discussing the possibility of commissioning him to do several pieces of artwork for the Library.

According to Dick Ruddell, their decision on this will not be contingent on whether the Company donates the World's Fair mural but the Library Commission would more than welcome the gift. Dick is confident that the City would bear the expense of dismantling, transporting and storing the mural.

If this is the case, I recommend that we make a gift of the mural to the City for the Henry Ford Library, rather than demolish it, even though we would not realize any tax benefit.

Is this agreeable with you?

William J. Mitchel, Jr.

August 25, 1965

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*File*  
*on*

**Memo to: N. B. Hall**

**Subject: Disposition of the Glen Michaels  
Mural - Ford Pavillion  
New York World's Fair**

At the termination of the Fair, after October 17, 1965, it has been contemplated that the Company donate the Glen Michaels mural to the City of Dearborn for installation in the foyer of the Henry Ford Library.

The cost of the mural including installation was approximately \$8,000 and was included as expense in the World's Fair Program budget. It is estimated that the cost for removal of the mural and shipping expense to Dearborn will be under \$1,000.

In making a contribution of this type will the Company realize any tax benefit and if so, what would be your recommendation as to how we handle this matter?

**J. G. Mullaly  
World's Fair Program Manager**


August 25, 1965

To: J. G. Mullaly

Two questions on the Michaels mural  
at the Pavilion:

1. Does Dick Ruddell still favor the  
Company giving it to the Henry Ford Library  
now that he has seen it re the size, contour,  
etc. ?

2. When can we get in writing the ex-  
planation of the tax treatment of the gift, if  
made?

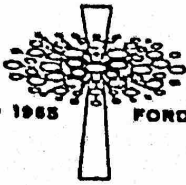
  
William J. Mitchel, Jr.

AUG 25 '65

NEW YORK  
WORLD'S FAIR PROGRAM



1964 • 1965



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9/15/65

WJM, Jr.

Office of Tax Affairs have our inquiry dated August 25, 1965 - On phone conversation this date they apologized for the delay in answering (due to their efforts in filing the company's Income Tax Report). They did advise however that in theory the same ruling should apply re that governing holding tax benefits regarding donations of Ford Time Act.

Tax Affairs will acknowledge by memo within two weeks -

J. G. Mullaly

September 21, 1965

Memo to: W. J. Mitchel, Jr.

Subject: Michaels Mural

During my visit to New York last week I discussed the questions regarding the Michaels mural with Dick Ruddell.

He has a letter on file from a local art studio appraising the present value of the mural at \$12,000. He also stated that he had originally requested a New York studio to appraise the mural. However, they had to decline since the artist was unknown in that area. It is our feeling that the local appraiser should be acceptable for our purposes. I will check this our further with Nate Hall.

J. G. Mullaly

October 26, 1965

Memo to: W. J. Mitchel, Jr.

Re: Glen Michaels Mural

In accordance with information received from Hugh Masterson, it is suggested that the following steps be taken to secure formal approval from the Contributions Committee for installation of the Glen Michaels mural in the Henry Ford Library.

(1) We should have a letter from the Dearborn Library Commission requesting that the mural be donated to the City of Dearborn for installation in their new Henry Ford Library. (I understand you have this letter on file.)

(2) A letter from Mr. T. H. Mecke, Jr., to the Contributions Committee stating that the mural is available and that we should satisfy the Dearborn Library Commission's request, recommending that the Contributions Committee give favorable consideration at their next meeting. (The Committee meets every third Thursday of the month.)

(3) In order to effect a favorable tax deduction, Nate Hall should approve the current appraisal value of the mural as stated in the letter from The Little Gallery to Dick Ruddell.

J. G. Mullaly

November 12, 1965

Memo to: W. J. Mitchel, Jr.

Subject: Status -  
Glen Michaels Mural Donation

Hugh Masterson is preparing a formal agenda request for consideration of donating the Glen Michaels mural to the City of Dearborn by the Contributions Committee. The matter is to be scheduled for consideration on next Thursday, November 18.

Nate Hall has conferred with both Glen Michaels and the Little Gallery in Birmingham with regard to their appraisal of the mural. The Little Gallery will resubmit a letter next week of more definitive content with regard to establishing the appraisal price of \$12,000. This will be satisfactory to Nate Hall and will be acceptable to the Contributions Committee in fixing the actual dollar value of the art work.

I would assume that barring further "hitches" the matter can be resolved next week.

J. G. Mullaly



11-12-65

Hugh Masterson --

Attached are the two items  
of correspondence concern-  
ing our donating the Glen  
Michaels mosaic map to  
the Dearborn Library  
Commission.

*items marked with ✓*



MEMORANDUM

November 19, 1965

TO: T. H. Meeko, Jr.

As you know the Contributions Committee considered, at its most recent meeting, the contribution of the Glen Michaels mosaic mural to the City of Dearborn.

The purpose of this brief memo is to formally advise you that the Contributions Committee approved the donation of the mural to the City of Dearborn for installation in the foyer of the Henry Ford Memorial Library.

Hugh W. Mankerson  
Corporate Contributions Administrator

cc

cc: J. G. Mallaly ✓

15-2235

*Ford Motor Company*

THEODORE H. MECKE, JR.  
VICE PRESIDENT-PUBLIC RELATIONS

THE AMERICAN ROAD  
DEARBORN, MICHIGAN

December 1, 1965

*File  
R*

Miss Clara L. Snow, Chairman  
Library Commission  
City of Dearborn  
22100 Michigan Avenue  
Dearborn, Michigan 48124

Dear Miss Snow:

The Contributions Committee of Ford Motor Company has considered and approved your request for donation of the Glen Michaels mural to the City of Dearborn Library Commission for installation in the proposed Henry Ford Memorial Library.

The mural has been removed from our New York World's Fair Pavilion and is presently being stored by a local cartage company. If you will advise us to whom the mural should be forwarded, we will arrange to have it delivered in accordance with your instructions.

Sincerely,

DEC-2 '65

THM:tm  
bcc: Mr. J. G. Mullaly ←  
Mr. R. R. Ruddell

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