

**GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT  
RESOLUTION NO. 688**

**A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE INTENT OF THE BOARD OF PARK  
COMMISSIONERS OF THE GLENCOE PARK DISTRICT TO NOT AUTHORIZE THE  
ERECTION OF PERMANENT OR SEMI-PERMANENT OUTFIELD FENCING  
WITHIN PROPERTY OWNED BY THE PARK DISTRICT AND COMMONLY KNOWN  
AS WATTS PARK**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Illinois law, the Glencoe Park District (“Park District”) holds its land in trust for the use and enjoyment of all citizens of the State of Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Illinois law, the Board of Park Commissioners (“Park Board”) of the Park District has the power and authority to manage and control all property of the Park District and to pass all necessary or desirable ordinances, rules and regulations in connection therewith; and

**WHEREAS**, the Park Board believes that a balanced park system includes parks of various sizes, locations and uses and that within the park system there should be an appropriate mix of parks serving passive as well as active recreational pursuits and the needs and interests of all age groups within the Park District; and

**WHEREAS**, to the extent feasible and appropriate in a given park, the Park Board desires to manage the park in a manner that will permit safe, compatible and full enjoyment of the park for the diverse uses of the park sought by the public and to be responsive to requests for new or different uses as public needs and interests change; and

**WHEREAS**, for many years the Park District has made available to the public, and the public has used and enjoyed, property owned by the Park District and commonly known as Watts Park for diverse passive and active recreational purposes, including organized youth baseball; and

**WHEREAS**, the youth baseball organization has requested authorization from the Park Board to make various improvements to Watts Park to enhance the use and enjoyment of the Park for participants in youth baseball, including the use of outfield (home run) fencing; and

**WHEREAS**, after considerable consideration of the request, including extensive public comment and debate, the Park Board has determined that an outfield fence would enhance the play experience desired by youth baseball and the safety of all users of the park while baseball is being played, but that the erection of a permanent or a semi-permanent (seasonal) outfield fence would be incompatible with many of the other uses of Watts Park enjoyed by the public and that a temporary outfield fence erected and removed each day when a game is played would allow for the enhanced play experience desired by youth baseball while also accommodating the diversity of other public uses of the park and enhancing the safety of users engaging in such competing uses; and

**WHEREAS**, there may be concerns that, following a trial period with use of the temporary outfield fencing, it may be the intent of the Park Board to authorize the erection of

permanent or semi-permanent outfield fencing, and the Park Board finds it in the best interest of the Park District to formally declare its intent with respect to this issue.

**NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Board of Park Commissioners of the Glencoe Park District, Cook County, Illinois, as follows:

**Section 1.** The Park Board finds that all of the recitals contained in the preamble to this Resolution are true and correct and does hereby incorporate them into this Resolution by this reference.

**Section 2.** This Park Board hereby declares its intent to not authorize the erection of permanent or semi-permanent outfield fencing on or in Watts Park.

**Section 3.** This Resolution shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption as provided by law.

Adopted this 16<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2007, by roll call vote:

**AYES:** Pfaff, Porta, Lee, Holstein

**NAYS:** None

**ABSTAIN:** Brohman

**ABSENT:** None

s/s Peter . Holstein  
Peter L. Holstein, President  
Board of Park Commissioners

ATTEST:

s/s Rodney A. Aiken  
Rodney A. Aiken, Secretary  
Board of Park Commissioners

