



Hinsdale Humane Society may move offices to KLM Park

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HINSDALE

The Hinsdale Humane Society wants to move its administrative offices to KLM Park in Hinsdale to relieve staff overcrowding at the animal shelter, at 22 N. Elm St.

Shelter officials have proposed renting the ground floor of an unoccupied building, owned by the village of Hinsdale, in Katherine Legge Memorial Park, at 5905 S. County Line Road.

The shelter would move its administrative staff, with the exception of the volunteer coordinator, to free up space for clients and volunteers to interact with the dogs and cats.

Shelter officials said their intent is not to make room to house more animals.

Executive director Lori Halligan said sometimes three people are working in her 9-by-12 foot office at the same time.

Her office and another office at the back of the building would be converted into adoption counseling rooms, "where the adoption staff meet with potential adopters," Halligan said.

Volunteers also use individual rooms to do basic training of dogs and cat socializing.

The dogs are exercised from two to four times a day outside, Halligan said. When the weather is bad, the dogs are exercised indoors.

Also, Halligan said, "We have no storage here," so the offices

are filled with file cabinets, supplies and bins of pet toys.

"It's not an inviting environment," Halligan said.

The shelter is busier than ever. Adoptions over the past three years have increased 30 percent, Halligan said.

People find it frustrating if they have to wait in the lobby for a room to interview with a counselor or meet with one of the animals.

The Hinsdale Village Board is expected to vote June 18 on a one-year lease of the building, last occupied by the Hinsdale-Clarendon Hill Elementary District 181 administration. The rent would be \$1,227 a year.

If the Village Board approves the lease, the Hinsdale Humane Society hopes to occupy the building by July 1. ■