

INFO ITEM:

MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



Summary of coffee talks and discussion regarding improvements/changes to AC operations and/or communications.

Presented by Nichole Rodriguez



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Purpose

- Check in since moving to a virtual setting
- Feedback/recommendations on council operations and communications

INFO ITEM:

MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



Process

- Questions drafted by Nichole Rodriguez and reviewed by Dawn Hayes
- Nichole scheduled 1-hour virtual meeting with each seat
- Coordinator summarized feedback collected and submitted to Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent for review

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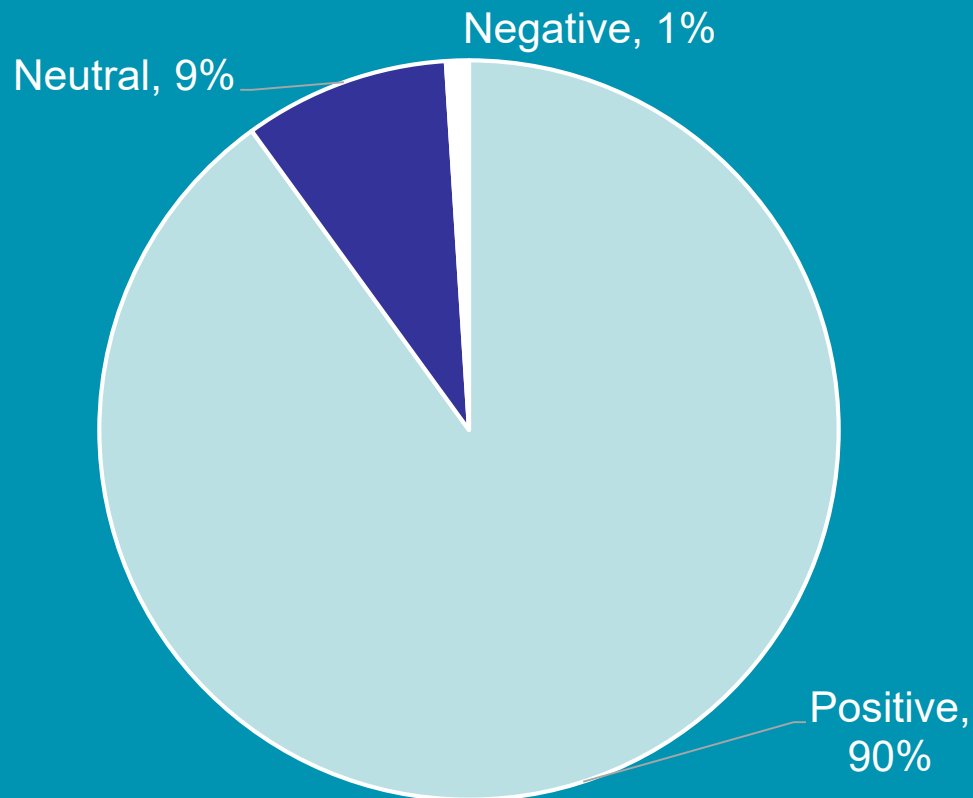
- Meetings occurred between September 2020 and January 2021
- Met with 22 seats (a total of 24 meetings) with 41 members
- Received written feedback from one member

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MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



How has the experience been for you serving on the AC?



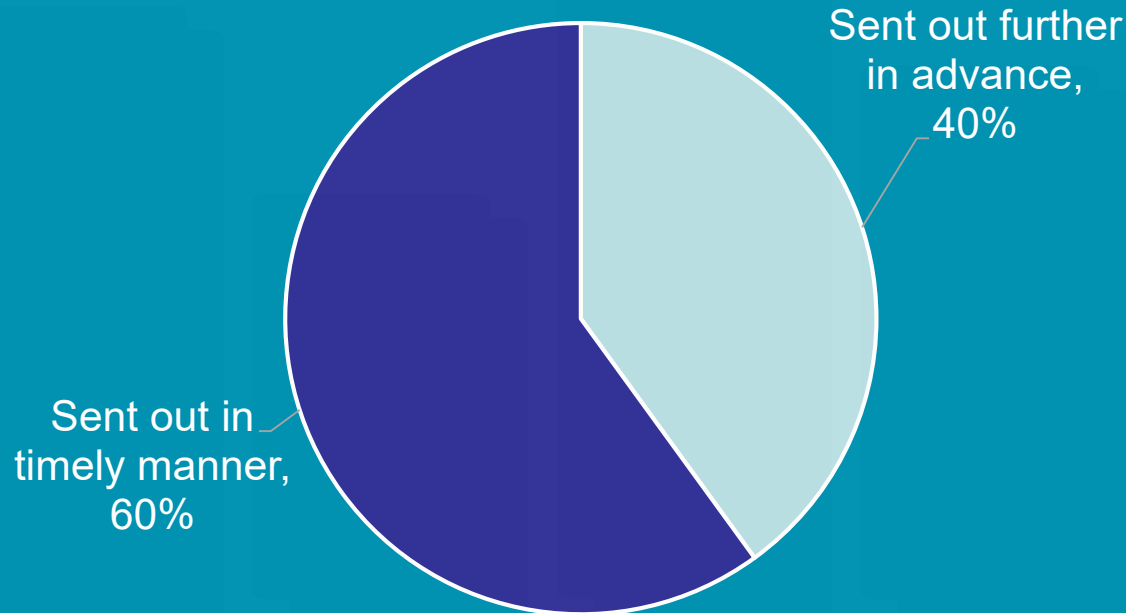
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What potential changes to council operations and communications would you like to see?

Meeting Materials Availability



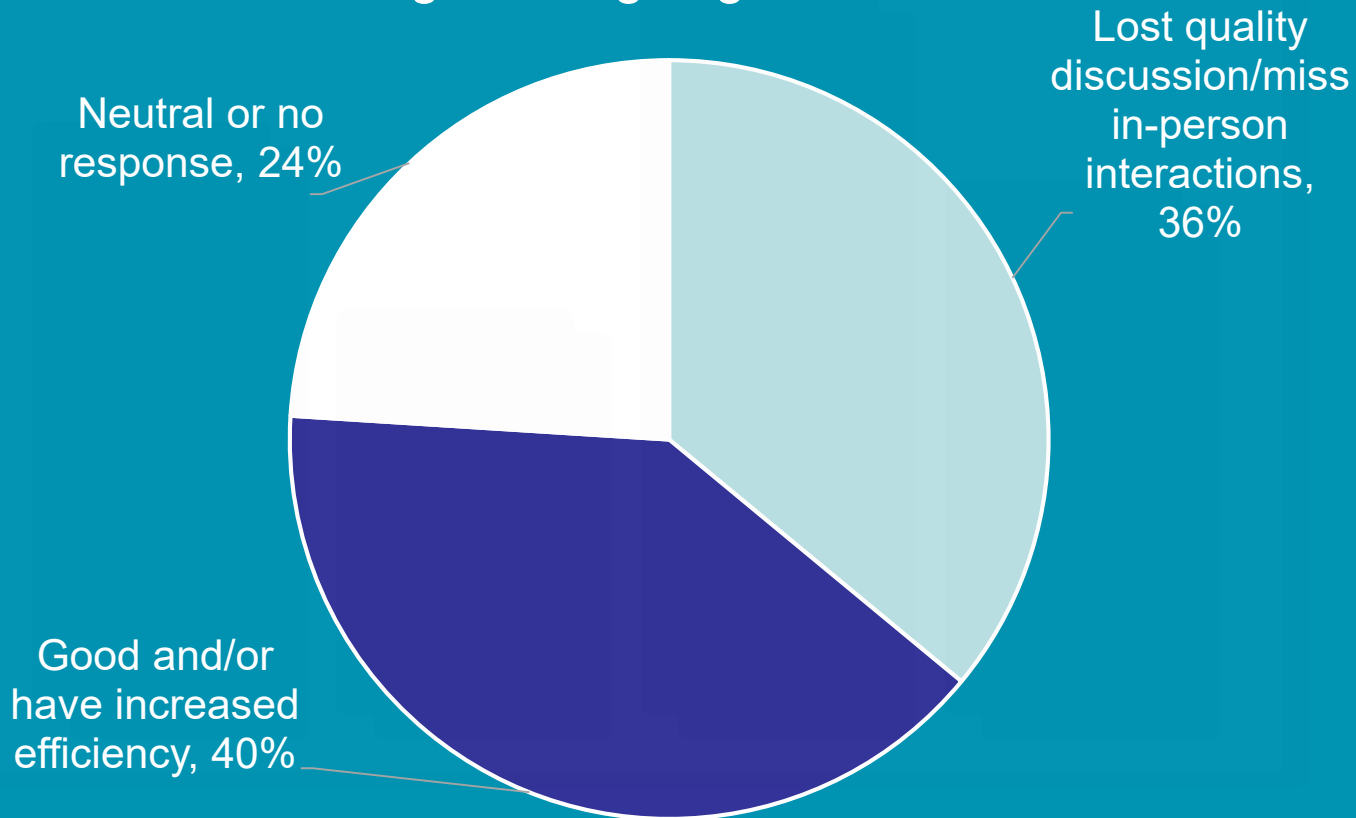
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What potential changes to council operations and communications would you like to see?

How have virtual meetings been going?



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How can the coordinator better help you be a more effective member?

25% of members had recommendations including:

- Follow up on topics the AC has addressed like golf balls
- Forward more emails to the AC regarding things happening around the sanctuary
- Send more background materials in meeting announcement emails
- Monthly check ins with members to see if they need anything or if the coordinator needs help with anything

INFO ITEM:

MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



How can the coordinator better help you be a more effective member?

25% of members had recommendations including:

- Use polls during virtual AC meetings to encourage engagement
- Check in with new members after a year. See how they are feeling and let them ask questions.
- Pair new members with seasoned members from a different seat as a mentor

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What are your goals for yourself as an AC member, and for the AC as a whole?

- Be an effective liaison between their constituency and MBNMS
- Stay informed of the issues that arise for their constituency as well as within MBNMS
- Ensure the AC has a solid work plan and is addressing existing and emerging issues through action

INFO ITEM:

MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



How can we make the AC more effective?

- Encouraging more participation in emailed member announcements while we meet virtually
- Collaboration with other ACs – more interaction to learn about activities across the region and system
- In-person AC meetings should be shorter but more frequent
- Have topic themed AC meetings
- Consider a tribal seat
- Limit the amount of time people speak/comment during meetings with courtesy time checks

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MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



How can we make the AC more effective?

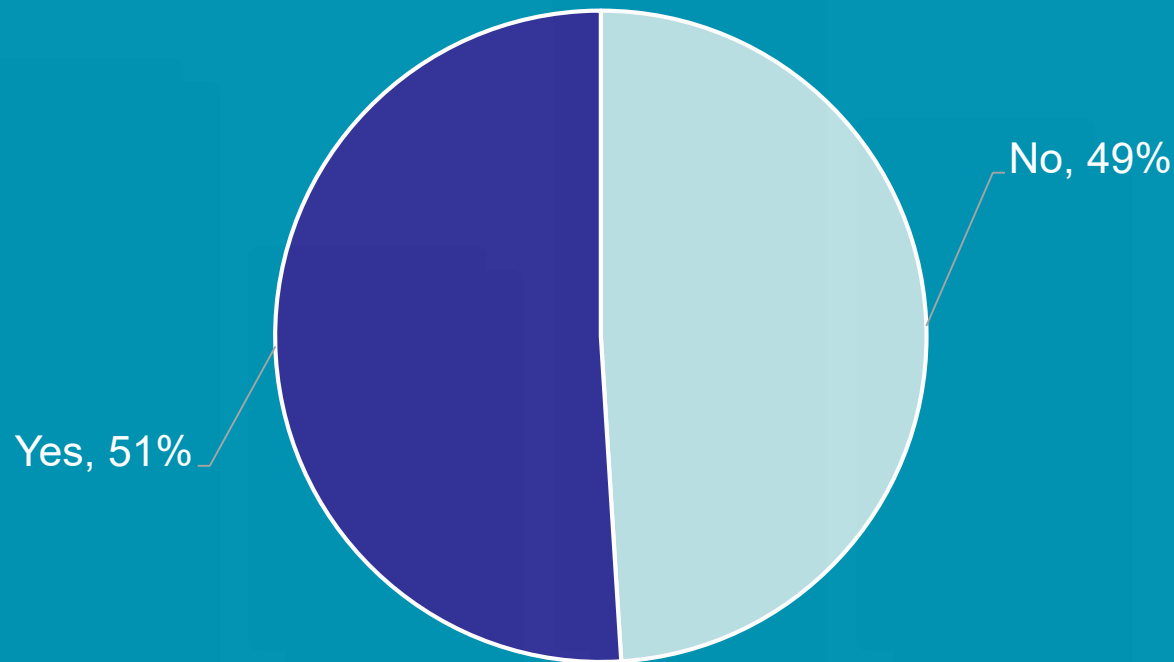
- Current info on AC webpages and bring AC info to main MBNMS page
- Spread the word – make AC more known in the community
- Pair new members with old hands of another seat
- Report out attendance at least yearly. Keep people accountable of their lack of attendance.
- Provide pertinent legislative updates at AC meetings

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MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



Would you benefit from more interaction from Sanctuary Staff and Superintendent?

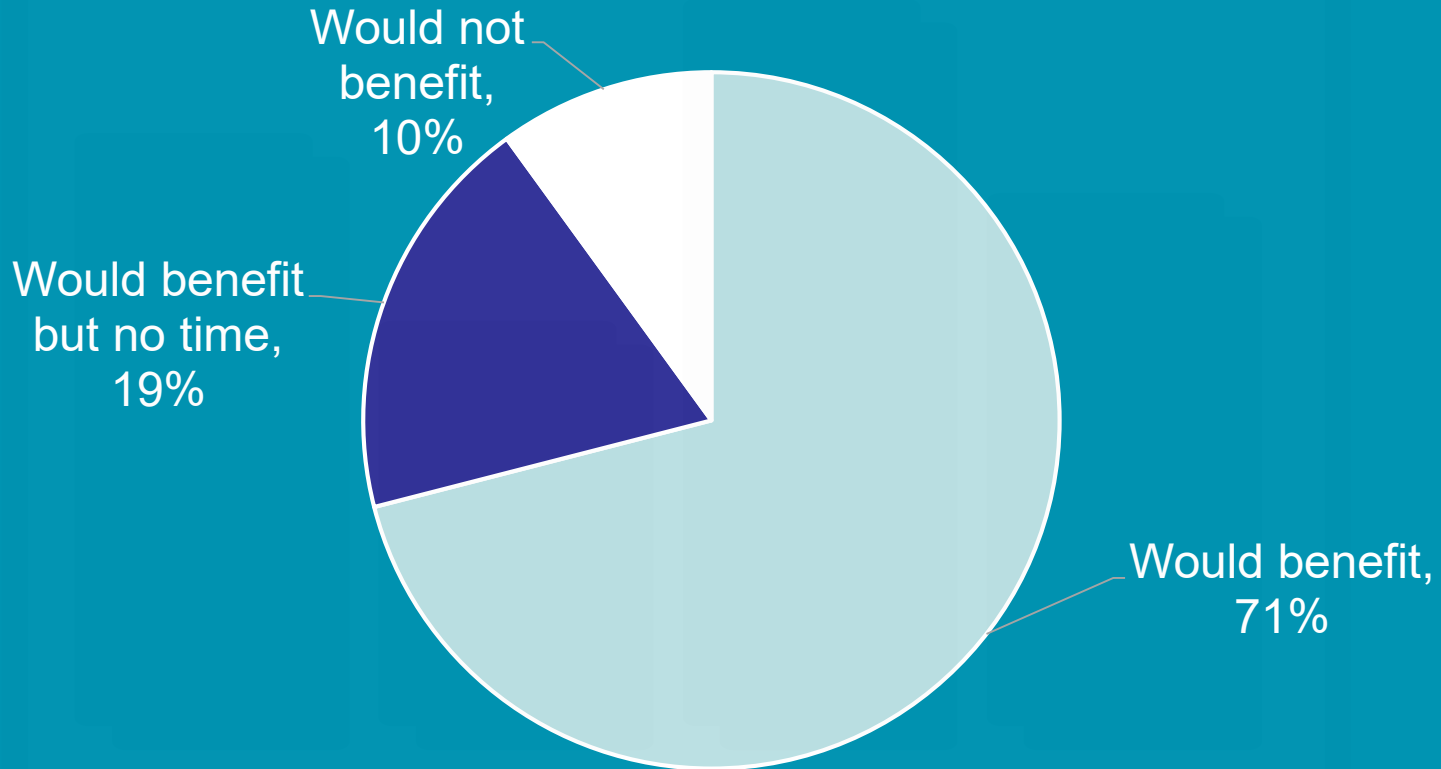


INFO ITEM:

MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



Would you benefit from more opportunities to work with each other?

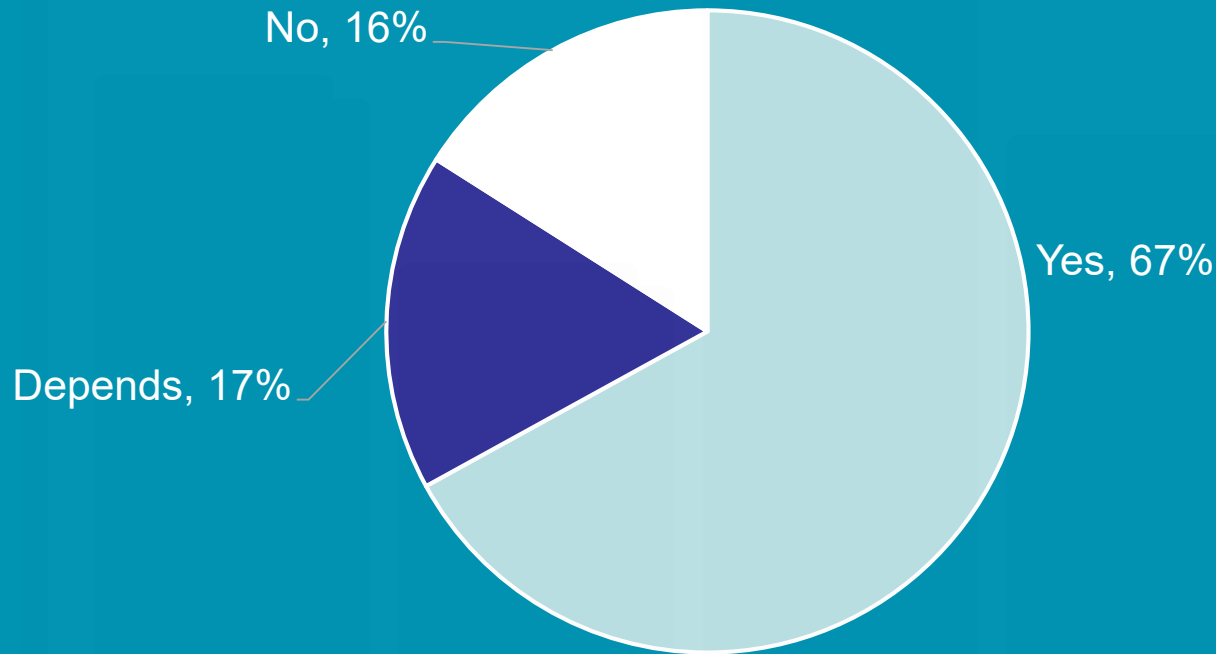


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MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



Would you benefit from an annual AC retreat in the future?



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MBNMS AC Virtual Coffee Talks Summary



Additional recommendations that came up:

- For Executive Committee elections, do more outreach and announce elections are coming up further in advance. Encourage AC members to discuss nominations.
- Succession planning for Executive Committee as well as entire AC as there will be a considerable loss of senior AC members (10 members) between 2022 and 2023
- Consider how the AC can take more advantage of the RAP.

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Next Steps

- Strategize with MBNMS staff to implement recommendations
- Report back to AC with progress