Major Milestone 3 Sprint Retro Notes
Team: P04-09
Sprint: 2
Date: 12/10/2025
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1. Things That Went Well

Sprint 3 proved to be highly productive, with the team successfully completing all remaining user stories planned for this milestone. This achievement demonstrates excellent momentum and effective workload management. Beyond the core requirements, the team delivered impressive additional functionality including high-performing team features, Google Maps integration for location services, and a CSV export feature for the attendee list. These extensions add significant value to the product and showcase the team's ability to go beyond baseline expectations. The overall quality of deliverables remained high, and the sprint concluded with all milestone objectives met, positioning the project favorably for future development phases.

2. Things That Could Have Gone Better

The primary challenge encountered during Sprint 3 centered around branch management and merging practices. When merging feature branches into the main branch, the team experienced instances where existing features broke, causing disruption and requiring additional debugging time. This indicates a need for better coordination and testing protocols before merging. Additionally, an unexpected issue arose with the GitHub Actions CI/CD pipeline, which exceeded usage limits despite the team not actively utilizing it extensively. This technical constraint created friction in the development workflow and suggests the need to review pipeline configurations, optimize workflow efficiency, or explore alternative solutions to stay within allocated resources.

3. Things That Surprised Us

One of the most pleasant surprises of Sprint 3 was the team's capacity to complete not only all remaining milestone user stories but also to implement several extension features that weren't originally planned. The successful integration of Google Maps and CSV export functionality demonstrates that the team's velocity and capability exceeded initial estimates. On the challenging side, the GitHub Actions workflow limit issue came as an unexpected obstacle, particularly given that the team believed they had minimal usage.

This revelation highlights the importance of monitoring resource consumption even for services that appear to have generous free tiers, and suggests that background processes or inefficient workflow configurations may be consuming more resources than anticipated.

4. Lessons Learned

Sprint 3 highlighted several critical areas for improvement in our development practices. Moving forward, we must implement stricter merge protocols including mandatory code reviews and comprehensive testing before merging feature branches to main, which will prevent existing functionality from breaking. Better communication channels and coordination practices are essential when multiple team members work on related features to minimize merge conflicts and integration issues. Finally, the sprint demonstrated that when our team exhibits high velocity, we should plan buffer capacity for extension features, as we have proven capable of accomplishing more than initially scoped.

5. Final Thoughts

Sprint 3 marked a successful conclusion to our development cycle, with the team completing all remaining milestone user stories and delivering impressive extension features including Google Maps integration and CSV export capabilities. This final sprint demonstrated the team's technical proficiency, strong work ethic, and ability to exceed baseline expectations by implementing additional high-value functionality. While we encountered challenges with branch merging that occasionally broke existing features and faced unexpected GitHub Actions workflow limitations, these issues did not prevent us from achieving our core objectives. The experience gained from navigating these obstacles has provided valuable insights into merge protocols, communication practices, and resource monitoring that will benefit future projects.