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Module 2 Journal

As the Scrum Master for the SNHU Travel project I would first listen very carefully to all the client’s needs and expectations for their request. After speaking with the client and creating the development team with the project owner, I would begin the scrum planning. During this planning phase, I would gather the entire scrum team, and the client if they are available, so that we can collaboratively decide on what can be completed and decide on an agreeable due date. Once the sprint date has reached us, we will have daily scrums so that the team can decide what each person will accomplish and how work will be done over that day. As items are accomplished, we will be able to refine the backlog to change the priority on different items and well as add new requirements or remove finished items. At the end of the sprint the Scrum team and the client will perform a sprint review where we look at what has been accomplished during the sprint and address any bottlenecks, mistakes, and any other changes that need to be made to ensure a quality product, to the client’s standards, is still produced on time. Lastly at the end of the sprint the Scrum team will perform a sprint retrospective where the team looks inward to identify improvements for future sprints.

There are massive benefits to each part of the Scrum process. With sprint planning, you are getting the client involved with the team not only to properly set expectations of the product, but also to set expectations of what can be done and how long it could take to do so. The daily Scrum meetings allow everyone on the team to be on the same page and understand what needs to be done daily. They all already know what the long-term goal is, but these meetings allow the team to set smaller scale goals to be accomplished daily. Backlog refinement re-prioritizes items on the team’s to-do list. As parts of the project get accomplished, other things might become more necessary to complete earlier or later than initially expected. So, refining the backlog saves wasted time by not working on something until it is necessary and when it makes sense to work on it. The sprint review allows the client to voice their own opinions as to how they think the project is going and lets them recommend changes that need to be made. The spring retrospective gives the team to actively decide for themselves what they can do for future sprints to increase productivity and efficiency to make that future sprint better for everyone.

The overall benefit of the Scrum process is that it is a very efficient form of project management. There are multiple levels of quality assurance making sure that anything that needs to be done better is caught before too much time has been wasted. Also, this process allows a team to work in an environment that is structured but also gives them the freedom to make decisions for themselves and empowers each member of the team. This empowerment will create unity, pride, and productivity.

The steps that I can take to ensure the team meets their goals is to maintain a very open line of communication and keep all expectations obvious. I can also keep the meetings on track and restate what the expectations are so that the team can make their decisions around what needs to be done based on priority. I would help the project owner with backlog management since there could be some nuance in the items where priority needs to be placed on items that the project owner was not aware of. Lastly, I’ll be able to voice my opinion from a Scrum standpoint at the sprint review and sprint retrospective on what improvements can be made.