

Project Sprint Planning Notes
Team: Moving Houses

Sprint: 2
Date: 18/09/2021

Attended: Jared Song, Alexander Aloj, Aili Gong
Scrum Master: Jared Song
Product Owner: Redowan Mahmud
Development team: Alexander Aloj, Aili Gong, Shannon Dann, Carl Karama

1. Things That Went Well

All user stories promised for the sprint were completed, fully integrated in the front-end and back-end for our application. We were able to complete all the desired functionality for the sprint including, logging in and registering as normal user and business user, creating, approving, and managing requests and creating books.

There was a major increase in group productivity and daily communication about tasks and issues to be completed. Everyone contributed equally to group discussions and attended all weekly meetings. Our product owner was happy with progression during all progression reports and commended our group's work ethic and weekly progress.

There were no issues with using CircleCI or Docker for our application, and we are very happy with the results of our hard work and efforts.

2. Things That Could Have Gone Better

More testing could have been implemented for each user story; we aim to eventually have several tests written for every controller, repository, service and API request. Additionally, there were periods where all members of the group were unable to contribute much progress due to external issues, however this did not negatively impact our positive attitude about tasks to be completed. Rather, it caused our group's velocity was not consistent, due to external factors such as other assignments or getting vaccinated. In comparison to the ideal burndown, our burndown chart shows periods of stagnancy and lack of progress, however we were still able to complete all story points for the sprint.

3. Things That Surprised Us

Changes made to our models – regular users and business users – made a lot of previously completed user stories have errors with functionality in the front-end.

This is shown in our burndown chart where our story points remaining increases in the middle of our sprint. Consequently, a lot of time and effort was spent on refactoring and re-implementing code to match between the front-end and back-end. Overall, we underestimated the amount of user story points each new feature was worth; integrating new functionality into our existing functions was much harder than anticipated, compared to implementing models and features at the same time in previous sprints.

4. Lessons Learned

When we implement new user stories that add features or functionality to existing models in our application, we need to ensure that front-end testing and back-end testing is completed before pushing our results to the main branch. In this sprint, the main issue was that our changes to models were only tested with Postman, and we made the mistake of disregarding how the changes would affect front-end routing. This was a very costly mistake and moving forward we will ensure that full-stack testing is always done before marking new user stories and features as complete.

Additionally, in future we should aim to complete models and relations in our classes for all user stories as early as possible, so that any new features or functions integrated in later sprints are done so seamlessly without causing errors between the front-end and back-end. We could implement empty methods and constructors for missing functionality, and simply add the code for these when the time comes, which is also a more iterative and continuous process.

5. Final Thoughts

Our group continues to function, communicate and interact at a very productive, positive and enthusiastic level. Whenever a group member struggles with any functionality or issue, the rest of the team is eager and responsive to the call for help, creating a fantastic group environment. There are no quarrels over assigned tasks, and we believe each member is able to play to their strengths and apply themselves confidently.

We believe that future changes focus solely on our distribution of user story points for user stories in upcoming sprints as we severely underestimated the difficulty of adding new functionality in this sprint. Here, the issue is not the new features themselves, but integrating them into our existing application without creating conflicts or new issues. In addition to this, we will dedicate story points to tasks such as refactoring code and implementing multiple microservices,

which are not directly tied to any user stories but are a crucial section of our code design and architecture.