Finance Friend

-Sprint Two Retrospective-

Team 5:

John Robinson

Wesley Turnbull

Henry Wellman

Patrick Spitzer

1.) What went well?

Henry:

I think that user story #07 and the investment recommendation features went very well. While I needed to do a lot of research and begin to understand basic concepts of the industry of quantitative analysis measuring, it was super satisfying to implement and even learn how to make a good-looking/well-functioning snack bar to display the recommendations in. I felt proud of that user story.

John:

User stories #01 and #02 went well. These user stories did take awhile due to all of the moving parts: the google maps API via http requests, two more geolocation packages, and then connecting it to the budget and notification features. However, once all of the pieces were put together, it worked very close to my initial vision.

Wes:

Overall things have gone pretty smoothly. I was able to clean up a lot of my spaghetti code from the first sprint, which was super helpful in trying to implement things like the database with my budgets. I think I'm really starting to understand the Flutter workflow which has made the project both more fun and simpler. Similar to what Henry said earlier, I feel proud of what we've done so far and of the work I've put in.

Patrick:

I did not run into any major problems with any of my user stories, so I would say that almost everything went well for me this sprint. I had no struggles with user story 15 (password resetting) and completed it on time. I completed user stories 16 and 17 (notifications) on time and managed the database storage with no issues. For user story 18 (appbar) I created the appbar with settings and home buttons and reorganized some of my older code to make it easier to read.

2.) What did not go well?

General:

While this Sprint was definitely highly successful, it was not without it's problems. Some user stories were rushed towards the end due to some complications with Firebase. While our use of the database has increased a lot, this meant that the organization and understanding of all our shared data was also now a major obstacle to fully implementing our stories. This will be resolved due to our improved understanding

and familiarity with the database and as we integrate the social aspect of our app in Sprint 3. The collaborative issue will similarly be resolved by continued meetings and interactions as many of our user stories started to overlap on the same pages and will continue to do so in the future.

Henry:

I think that one thing that could have gone better would have been user stories #08 and #09, the credit card page features. While I got them working, I had to do a less complicated implementation method than I had originally imagined. This also had something to do with how the database accessing of other team members' data was a little tricky. Furthermore, while developing the compare features for the stock market investments, the API provider I was using (Alpha Vantage), shrunk their limited 100 free API calls a day to a tiny 25, which meant I had to be far more efficient and creative when I was working on the new features.

Wes:

The only thing that did not go well were some last minute changes that ended up being somewhat stressful. It also took awhile to get the multiple budget functionality in place as I had to adjust the budgeting data structure from what I had initially set up. I just found there were a lot of things that used the budgeting data structure, so I had to do a lot of refactoring.

John:

I very much underestimated user stories #03 and #04. Getting all of our code to work together was proven difficult because we worked very individually for the previous sprint, and didn't put much time into extensibility. I also had some scope problems that would not allow me to use Wes' very nice functions, so I had to create my own. For the notifications, I also had problems adding my own widgets into the notifications, and then passing in the same functions as I used before in the widget to update the database. I eventually got this to work, but a last second change created a bug in the code.

Patrick:

The only parts of this sprint that I struggled with were some UI issues with displaying notifications and updating a user's notification settings, but those issues were resolved relatively quickly. I had no failed user stories.

3.) How should you improve?

Henry:

I think that in this sprint, we definitely improved the overall appearance and consistency of UI across our project which was a major benefit. However, I think one thing that will help a lot going into Sprint 3 would be optimizing the flow of data across our projects and making the display of database and external third-party information also presented in a consistent, easy-to-access, easy-to-understand way. I think this can be done by maybe adding another meeting throughout the week, or just talking about how we will implement our Sprint 3 user stories before starting to make sure we are all on the same page.

Wes:

I think continued communication about implementation would go a long way as we continue to build on each other's work. Things can be made out to be harder than they are if we are working individually. Something else that would be helpful for me if continued cleaning up of my code base. Most of the code in the repo is used, but there is some random unnecessary code from old stories. The other thing that could easily be adjusted is just adding more comments to my code so that my teammates can more clearly understand not only what something is, but why it was written in that specific way.

John:

I should improve by improving overall code quality and architecture. From my view, Wes has done the best job in keeping his code extensible and clean, so I think I should follow his example. This will make our app's UI and features much more cohesive, efficient, and extensible. I should also work on getting overall features done much quicker so I can resolve small bugs that continually creep up in areas I was not expecting. This would also give me more time to prepare my presentation, so I don't get disorganized when I am working with multiple areas of the application like I did in the most recent demo.

Patrick:

In the future, I believe the only ways I can personally improve would be to take on a bit heavier workload and to do a bit more practice before the presentation. Overall this sprint went very well for me, I succeeded in completing all of my user stories and managed to do so with few bumps along the way.