Sprint Review and Retrospective

The Scrum-agile team roles play an instrumental piece in the agile process. They are arguably the foundation of the agile approach. We start with the role of the Scrum Master in this case, it’s me. As the Scrum Master, you will oversee and connect the rest of the team and individuals. For example, I will be connected to both the Product Owner and the Development Team creating the product. Next, we have the Project Owner, the project owner will be the starting point for the project they will explain to us the problem and the requested solution for the problem. In our case, the project owner informed us to create new travel packages for SNHU Travel that could recommend hand-tailored destinations to each individual customer. Finally, we have the Scrum Team Members, often part of the development team and testers that allow for the creation and evaluation of the product with respect to its requirements. In our example, we had a team that developed the code to create hand-tailored destination recommendations for the customer based off of their preferences, previous travel, and much more. This then was all tested through the use of our testers who helped the development team refine the product.

The scrum agile approach allowed each of the user stories to come to completion by clearly stating its requirements and its approach to meet those requirements for example we want to display to the customer a list of the top five travel destinations for them. We can do this by analyzing the customer’s past travel their opinion of that trip and their personal preferences that they have saved to their profile such as if they enjoy cruises more than camping. Within the agile approach, we were able to outline all of our requirements like this in an Excel sheet that made it easy for all team members to understand and view.

The agile approach was extremely helpful throughout any interruptions or changes that occurred within the project. An example we saw of this within our own project was when we needed to adjust the customer recommendations. After we had created the framework for recommending travel destinations to our customers we had the product owner tell us in a meeting that new insight had brought more understanding and changed our requirements slightly. We would still be recommending travel destinations to the customer however the theme of each destination should be somehow connected to wellness and detox. The agile approach allowed us to reshape the framework rather than having to completely start fresh.

Using the agile approach, we were able to communicate more often and more efficiently with our team on a daily basis. This allowed for a better understanding of all the daily objectives and their impact on the finished product. I have attached below a sample of one of the emails we used after our daily scrum meeting. We used the email to re-communicate that day’s daily tasks for each team.

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| To: Tom <Development Team> ; Linda <Development Team> ; Mark <Tester> ; Sarah <Tester> |
| CC: |
| From: Karl <Scrum Master> |
| Subject: Daily Scrum Meeting Recap |
| Good Morning Team,  Just sending you guys a reminder of what we discussed earlier in the daily scrum. First and foremost, great work these last days your dedication and hard work has not gone unnoticed and everyone here at SNHU Travel is greatly appreciative. With that said we now can look at the daily tasks for today.  Developers –continue working on allowing the user to set their travel preferences including their preferred mode of travel. You mentioned this morning that you had a few setbacks yesterday. If you have any today do not hesitate to reach out to me for help.  Testers – test the destinations list ensure that there are five recommended travel destinations and that each includes photos, a description, and pricing. Additionally, you mentioned that you would be working with the developers today incase they needed an immediate test of their current code. This is a great idea and feel free to reach out to me if you need and assistance.  Very Respectfully,  Karl (Scrum Master) |

One of the organizational tools that allowed for the success of our team was Azure boards. We used an Azure board daily in our scrum meetings and it allowed for an effective way to display the tasks we needed to accomplish while also allowing it to be easily accessible. Another tool we used as previously mentioned was our daily scrum meetings, yes the Azure boards were effective however it was helpful to speak with each team member each day and understand any questions, comments, or concerns they may have had this allowed us to stay more in tune and overall was a direct link to our effectiveness.

Finally, I would say that the overall effectiveness of the agile approach within the SNHU Travel project was extremely high. I personally feel we have selected the best approach to tackle the project that allowed for clear and concise communication among all team members allowing for project understanding and accomplishment to become second nature. I felt that the use of teams and their ability to be flexible were the largest pros for this project. Additionally, due to the nature of the project, I do not feel that using the agile approach came with any cons.