Sprint Review and Retrospective

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We spent the past five weeks building a travel site for SNHU travel. We were able to be successful because of our agile team. Christy was the Product Owner, I was the Scrum Master, Nicole was the Developer, Brian was the Tester, and Amanda was our client. Our client contributed to our success by giving our Product owner important details about what she wanted in the product. Our Product Owner contributed to our success by defining and prioritizing the user stories. This helped make sure the team was focuses on delivering features that aligned with our client’s vision of the product. The Product Owner was also always available to give us feedback and to make important decisions to help the team stay aligned with the clients expectations.

As the Scrum Master, I made sure the team was adhering the Scrum principles and I helped remove any obstacles that impeded the projects progress. I also ensured that each Scrum event was properly executed and that the team was continuously improving during the course of development. Our Developer and Tester worked together to turn the user stories into working features for the website. The Developer was responsible for the programming and design while our Tester was responsible for making sure that each user story functioned properly. The Developer and Tester also regularly communicated and collaborated with each other which allowed them to work efficiently to complete the user stories.

A Scrum-agile approach to SDLC helped each of the user stories come to completion in a few ways. Using Sprint Planning, the team would review the product backlog and select user stories to work on. We would prioritize the most important stories first so that the team could focus on delivering critical features to the client. Sprint Planning also gave the team a better understanding of the work that needed to be done as well as an understanding of the project’s goals. Daily Stand-Ups allowed the team to communicate and collaborate effectively. During these meetings, team members would give updates on their progress, talk about issues they were having, and identify problems that needed to be resolved. This made sure that the team was always up to date on what was going on with each other as well as identify possible roadblocks early in the sprint.

A Scrum-Agile approach supported project completion when the project was changed because of our Daily Stand-Ups. We found out from our Product Owner that SNHU Travel wanted to focus more on wellness/detox trips during one of these meetings. Our Product Owner reprioritized the backlog and our Tester updated the test cases to account for the change. Our Developer looked at where we were in terms of features to assess what would be possible to complete in the short time frame.

Our team was able to communicate effectively through the Daily Stand-Ups as well as emails. Our Tester had emailed the Product Owner about some questions he had pertaining to the user stories. He asked specific questions about how everything should be displayed on the site and requested that the Product Owner reach out to the Client if needed. Our Developer also emailed the Product Owner and Tester during the sprint. She requested clear and concise stories from the Product Owner in order to fully understand the goals and objectives of the project to properly develop test cases. She also requested for our Tester to provide feedback as soon as possible so issues could be identified and fixed as soon as possible.

Sprint Planning, The Daily Scrum, and The Product Backlog helped our team be successful with the SNHU Travel project. Sprint Planning allowed the team to discuss and prioritize user stories that needed to be completed. This made sure the team stayed focused on the most important tasks that met the clients goals and expectations. The Daily Scrum helped the team keep up to date on their progress, impediments, and what they were doing next. Keeping the team informed helped adjust their plans to make sure the stories were completed on time. Our team used the Product Backlog to manage user stories and prioritize what needed to be done. This helped them stay organized and focused which enabled them to complete the project on time and within budget.

The pros of the Scrum-agile approach is that it’s adaptable, collaborative, and focuses on value. Being adaptable allowed the team to adjust the project’s direction to better meet the client’s needs when we shifted to focus on wellness/detox vacations. Being collaborative encouraged communication among the team which lead to a better final product. Focusing on value allowed the team to prioritize user stories based on value to the client. This made sure that important features were developed first so we could quickly deliver to the client.