Joshua Reichert

CS-250

Spring Review / Retrospective

06/16/2023

The objective of the SNHU Travel Destination Project is to assist our client in establishing a website where users can book vacations based on their interests. The project team comprises several members, with Ron serving as the Scrum Master. Ron's role involves gathering valuable information from the client during meetings, alongside our product owner, Christy. As the Scrum Master, Ron also leads and manages the daily scrum meetings, which last for 15 minutes each. During these meetings, Ron outlines the necessary steps and timeline for completing the project.

Christy, our product owner, acts as the liaison between the client and the team. She maintains constant communication with both parties, ensuring that the project progresses in the right direction. Throughout the project, Christy relays any feedback or requirements from the client to the team. This enables us to implement changes or fixes promptly, thereby minimizing errors later on. Additionally, Brian is responsible for testing and seeks clarification from Christy regarding user stories and test case creation.

The development team consists of skilled developers who adhere to best practices when writing code for the project. They ensure that the code runs smoothly and error-free. Furthermore, testers collaborate with the developers by creating and executing test cases on the

project software. The test cases provide detailed information about the software's functionality, enabling the rest of the team to understand the user stories.

The team follows the Agile Method, which reduces the likelihood of issues or failures. It allows for continuous testing of different project components, facilitating quick adjustments if necessary. By utilizing the Agile approach, we can seamlessly incorporate changes into our code without starting from scratch. This was particularly useful when we were asked to modify the top five destinations, as we could easily implement these changes within the existing codebase.

Agile methodology offers flexibility, enabling us to make adjustments efficiently without compromising the project's deadline. For instance, when the project shifted its focus to detox and wellness travel, we were able to adapt accordingly. In a meeting with Christy, Ron, Brian, and one of the developers, we discussed the client's new requirements. Brian updated the test cases to align with the revised project direction, ensuring they functioned as intended. Although the development team had initial concerns about the changes, the Agile Method allowed us to make the necessary adjustments without starting over. Ron confirmed that the project deadline remained unaffected.

Effective communication plays a crucial role in collaboration and staying on track. I initiated email communication with Christy to establish a good working relationship and ensure her comfort with the team. By including the entire team in these email conversations, we promoted transparent and open communication. This approach fostered active participation during team meetings as well. When the project's direction changed, I emailed Brian and Christy to inquire about specific locations to be added to the website. This facilitated collaboration and kept the entire team informed about ongoing changes related to detox and wellness.

As the Scrum Master, I ensured effective communication during scrum meetings, ensuring everyone had a clear understanding of project progress. We relied on organizational tools such as the product backlog and user stories. The product backlog served as a checklist, prioritizing tasks that needed completion. User stories allowed us to break down the project into manageable tasks and steps. By dividing the workload through user stories, we made the project more feasible.

Among the Agile Method principles, adaptability was the most prominent during this project. We embraced changes requested by the client, and the Agile approach facilitated a seamless implementation process without project delays. As the Scrum Master, I gained experience in using tools such as the sprint backlog, product backlog, daily scrum meetings, and sprint reviews. These tools proved essential in managing the team effectively.

The flexibility provided by the Agile Method was a significant advantage. It allowed us to make changes and shift project direction without starting from scratch, ultimately benefiting the project's success and meeting the deadline. However, one drawback was the additional workload placed on team members. Each member had to take on more tasks than initially planned. While this could have caused frustration, fortunately, the team managed to handle the situation smoothly. Agile methodology fostered collaboration and effectiveness throughout the sprint cycles.

Comparatively, the Waterfall Method might not have allowed us the same level of flexibility. Choosing Agile was the best decision for the SNHU Project, as it facilitated successful project completion.