5-3 Journal: Developer

I feel the most important thing as a developer is communication. You must be able to actively communicate with the product owner and tester which is a great healthy way to develop an excellent product. Saying that, given the situation of the client wanting to redesign what was the original plan, I would start by asking about a deadline. Do we still have the same deadline, or will it be a new one since we must readjust? We will be spending extra time figuring out the added details of the product since now it is to focus on detox/wellness. For the tester, I would want them to know of all the changes so that they can know what to expect when testing the product. To ensure I get a response so that we can move ahead, I will meet with the product owner for updated user stories and backlog while also making sure no other major changes have been made.

The biggest thing about not getting an answer immediately is making sure you always follow up. You can follow up by meeting in person or sending emails. Emails are a good way to track progress. Emails are also an effective way to hold others accountable. For instance, if you send out an email that requests a response and the person sends the details of what is to be done back. It is hard to say “Oh I never received that email” because it can be proven that it was sent. Hopefully face to face I get the answers I need but if not the follow up with the email should also give me a response. Or even if you meet face to face you can have them email you the details to ensure you have what you need.

The agile methodology allows us to be flexible in this case due to the changes the client wants. The deadline itself, whether it changes or stays the same, allows us to be agile where in the waterfall method the original deadline may cause a problem as we may not being able to complete the product with the changes wanted by that deadline. Using the agile method, we should be able to make the changes by adding to the user stories and updating the backlog to stay on track. The agile method allows flexibility by giving us the ability to work together to quickly get on the same page. Having the daily meetings and being able to communicate with each other makes the agile method the best for this situation.

This is how I would email the product owner and tester to get all the information that I need to complete my work.

To: Product Owner

CC: Tester

Subject: Updated User Stories

Dear Product Owner,

Good morning, I hoped you could give more information about the changes to the SNHU Travel Website. I do understand that the new focus will be on detox/wellness vacations. With this being the new focus, are we no longer dealing with other types of vacations? I was also looking forward to viewing the new user stories and updated backlog in response to the clients' new requirements. Also, is the deadline for our client remaining the same? Or will we have extra time to complete this product due to the changes? I am eager to update my work with the clients' new requirements so if you can please get back to me as well as the testers as soon as possible, we will have everything we need to stay on track.

Thank you,

Jeston England