Mitch Meyer

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Assignment 9.3

Through the weeks of course work in this project management class I have learned a series of things that will be useful for my future endeavors. We learned about the best practices of discovering a need and developing a plan to address that need. We developed charts and schedules to illustrate and communicate the process of a project to everyone involved. Finally, we worked together to create a solution to a complex problem, and we did it remotely via message boards.

I can really see how implementing the various best practices we learned through the course of this class can streamline a project. Creating a project charter is a good way to go about defining the problem to be solved or the product to be produced. I can see starting with this baseline be extremely useful in nearly everything I do. Whether I’m organizing a food drive at church, writing a song with some friends, or tackling a software project at work, having a clear charter that everyone understands and agrees with will provide a head start towards a successful project. In developing the plan, creating a clear scope statement and a work breakdown structure will also be really helpful skills to take out of this class.

The scope statement allows a project manager and stakeholders to clarify what the project will entail and what is beyond the scope of the project. This document is critical to the planning of any project and helps create an outline for a work schedule. The work breakdown structure is probably the document I most enjoyed working on in the class. It was really neat to be able to create a schedule for the project and see how it would come together in a best case scenario.

Finally, I learned a lot about being able to communicate with people of different backgrounds via text to meet our common goals. It was a new experience to work together with people but to never meet together. I think that this experience will be very beneficial to me in the future because the Internet has made the world a whole lot smaller and I will almost certainly will find myself working with people in a similar fashion in the future. In fact, at my new job, we did many long distance classes with people located in San Francisco using telephones and WebEx meeting software.

I think this project management class was very valuable and I know that I will carry forward many of the lessons we learned to work I will do in the future.