Team 15 Boiler Scout

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What went well?

We stuck to our meetings throughout the weeks. At each meeting, members informed each other on what they had the following week, so members didn't have unrealistic productivity expectations from each other. At times of disagreements or small problems team members were rational and kept their professionalism. Very rarely, if at all, would a member miss the meeting or arrive late.

What did not go well?

Effective communication was one of our largest issues. Though we communicated throughout the week, we generally failed to let the group know when tasks were completed. What was even worse was that we failed to communicate when things were going bad. For example, we were unable to get the project workspace setup in the back until the day of the Sprint Review, meaning some members were not able to get any work done.

From the perspective of the front end, many tasks that seemed trivial to implement proved to be harder than we thought, such as routing. Though we created all the views we had planned to for the sprint, we were unable to implementing **integration with the database**. The frontend team realized that we overestimated how much could get done with our skillset, and will need to allocate more time to unfamiliar tasks, such as relating to integration between the views and the database. We realized it was a bad idea to not connect our frontend to the backend earlier in the first sprint so our priority the for the start of the second sprint will be integration. Also, since we spent so much time writing the views, we had minimal time for **styling the views**, and as a result, the views visually are not in their final form.

The back end failed to finish **the email verification task** which was to be followed by **a password reset method**, which was also not completed. The email verification method was to be the starting point to deal with the password reset, and also with the possibility of **requesting a new verification email**. Since it failed to be completed on time, these two were also unfinished. Getting this issue fixed as quickly

as possible is a top priority. As an additional issue, we weren't able to set the back end on our local environment and we lost a lot of time trying to set it up. This problem, however, highlights a much more important issue, which was leaving the heaviest workload until the end, and then not having enough time to troubleshoot unexpected issues.

How should we improve?

As this is the first time most of our members have worked together on a large scale project in a team environment, there are many things to take in from our shortcomings in sprint one. Some of these include coordination and communication, and improving on these will also improve our work flow for future sprints.

1. Accountability and communication
    - During the first sprint, team members were not doing their due diligence in communicating and updating others on their progress. Stand up meetings became stale and unproductive because members were not being held accountable for their tasks.
    - In order to fix this, we will now be having members speak about their assigned tasks (along with their user stories in the sprint plan) they completed and hope to complete each week, rather than vaguely mention work they did. This will allow us to be accountable for each other and make sure work is being done in a timely manner.
    - We will start setting hard deadlines for when features or things need to be done, in order to facilitate a more productive sprint.
    - Every Sunday during our longer meetings, each member will have to show what they have accomplished.

2. Coordination
    - We found that after delegating our members "frontend" and "backend" oriented tasks, that coordination was very lacking. Tasks on the frontend were completed without consulting the backend, and thus led to us failing to integrate parts of our project for the first sprint. For example, many of the views created on the client side were done without attempting to route to any backend endpoints. This should be done piece by piece, rather than all at once at the end.
    - In order to fix this, we will be making sure that at every stand up meeting, that we make sure we set aside time to discuss integration. This includes how views will be connecting with our backend endpoints, etc.

- ○ During our longer meetings on Sunday, we will get together and address any outstanding issues or questions a member may have.

3. Time management
- ○ We had trouble estimating how much time tasks would take, since it is most of the members' first experience with a big project. Most of the time the problem was underestimating how long implementing a feature would take. Combined with the research, trial and error required us to finish a task, we ended up spending more time than we had anticipated. Not tackling problems right away at the start of the sprint snowballed by the end and made it even harder for us to manage our time.
- ○ To fix this issue, we will ensure that members deal with problems that might arise quickly and make it a priority to solve it instead of delaying dealing with it. Again, communication will play a huge role in our success here.
- ○ We will also allocate enough time for each task now that we have a better understanding of how much time it takes us to implement a feature.