Minutes for TEAM META 01.03.2016

Meeting was called to order at 10:00 am at the open area, floor 2, R1.

Attendees:

Ivan Stoilchev Ivaylo Hristov Yasen Georgiev Veselin Slavchev

Absent:

(none)

Agenda:

- 1. Research
 - methodologies
 - codes for identification
 - OR codes
 - safely storing passwords
- 2. Methodology
 - differences, pros and cons
 - ideas, why do they fit our case
 - values of the methodology
 - how to make it work for our project
- 3. Learning
 - PHP
 - password storing, hashing, salting

Motions:

1. We decided to adopt the Lean methodology:

We are learning about technologies like CSS, PHP and using MySQL for practical work, so playing with the code and practicing is important before we can have some confidence with them. This is important for a team of students and for following Lean. As a result of our uncertainty we would like to delay making decisions, as we believe that an early, but misinformed decision is worse than a late, but more educated one. We will also strive to deliver features more frequently and work in shorter iterations. Fast delivery leads to faster feedback and more precise actions, all of this should result in better learning, communication and more team energy. Another important aspect of Lean is the lack of strong micromanagement; instead each member of the team is responsible for their contributions to the project and individuals are more free to choose on what to work. This way the individual feels more motivated and is of greater importance to the end result.

2. After a research we decided to use QR codes for identification:

QR codes are really easy to use, they also have large range of use. Everybody can make such a code because it is really easy to be generated. The QR codes are cost-effective, this means that the creating of the code does not cost anything. We can use these codes with our smartphones and that saves a paper. By using QR codes the process of transferring information is really quick. The QR codes are small in size and are trackable. The cons are: not everyone finds them attention-grabbing, potential for over usage, need of QR code reader.

Comparison between QR codes and line barcodes:

The standard line barcodes are one-dimensional, can be read only horizontally and can store a limited amount of data (up to 20 numerical digits). QR codes are two-dimensional, can be read horizontally and vertically and can store more than 4 000 characters of information.

QR codes vs. RFID (radio frequency identification):

It is easier and cheaper to get QR codes. QR codes are web oriented and more flexible. For the RFID a database is needed for the technology to be effective, without a proper database there is nothing for the RFID scanners to decode. A QR code does not need access to any database in order to decode and provide the user with relevant information. When people buy something they have to be notified if the device is RFID capable or contains a transmitting RFID chip. The QR code is visible on any surface that it is printed on. For the RFID a special expensive piece of scanning equipment is needed. If we want to scan a QR code we can just use our smartphones.

Achieved in the past week:

- 1. Learned basics of PHP and connected it with MySQL to try basic queries
- 2. Setup a test MySQL database
- 3. Researched QR and barcodes
- 4. Research password storing: hash functions and salting
- 5. Methodology research

Plan actions for next week:

- 1. Make visual design and wireframe of the website
- 2. Decide between Oracle and MySQL