Wiki-letnik'2017 / Belarus

Community growth during our first Wikicamp 2017 preparation.



The banner created during the WikiLetnik

Purpose of the presentation

- We analyzed team and community behavior.
- On all three stages: preparation, implementation, reflection.
- Usage: for transfer knowledge for further generation of organizers and for planning community.

Statistics

- 20 (13 man/7 women, inc. 6 newcomers) participants
- 3 + 2 members organization team
- 19 online endorsements in favour of the events
- 6 days
- 2+ wiki expeditions
- More than 20 workshops, presentations, sprints

Preparation

- Long preparation: 1.5 year to warm up community and its loyalty for the event
- Team: scarcity of obligation.

- Community: strong online support.
- Communication: offline and online went very slow and uneven.

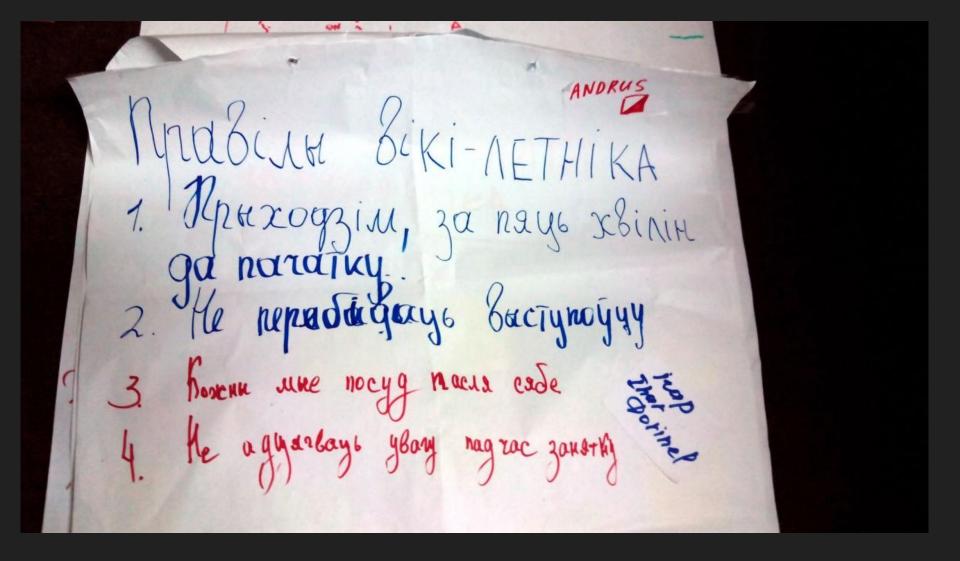
- International wiki community: very vibrant in comparison with local.
- Team meeting: accelerate the process and obligation



During of one preparation team meeting

Implementation

- Morning mood board demonstrated connectivity among participants and understanding of the Wiki-letnik (Camp) aims.
- Regular aim reflection by attendees.
- Camp rules.



Camp goals

- Connect newcomers and advanced wiki users.
- 2. To develop online and offline community collaboration.
- 3. To transfer tech and humanities knowledge.

Goals of participants

Mostly focused on 1 and 3, which are more individualistic rather than collective.

Translators, needs, hackathon

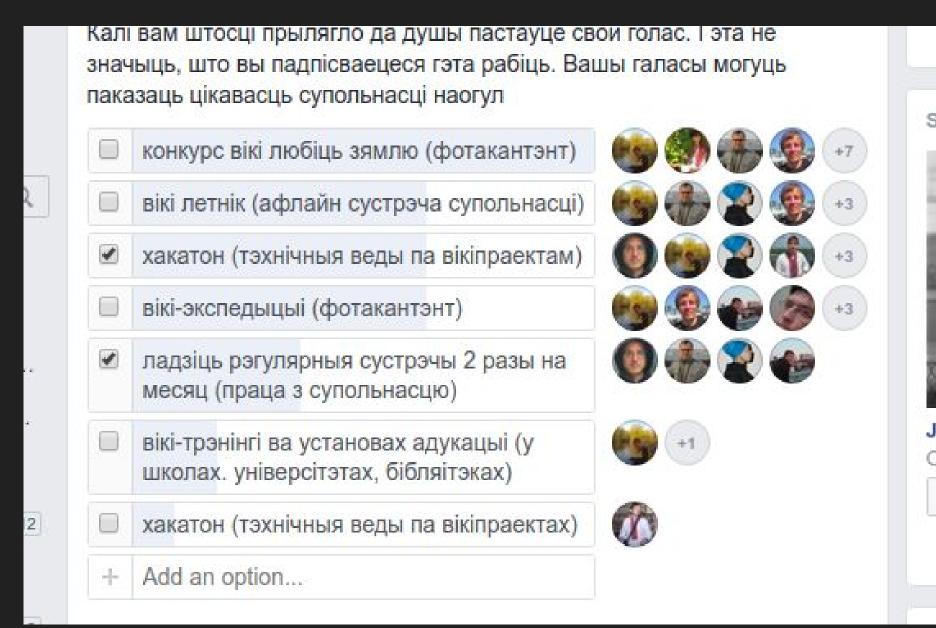
Partcipants did not care about the offline community or self-governance issues.

e.g. Our community portal was not an issue for participants.

There is many translators like a contests where belarusian community can develop its agency.

What was noticed as an interesting projects are

- photo projects,
- 2. wiktionary,
- 3. interface translations,
- 4. bots writing,
- 5. wiki education,
- 6. article writing and translation.



On hackathon

the most interesting topics were:

- 1. template and bots writing,
- 2. graphic,
- 3. interfaces translations
- 4. events organization

Feedback

Around 70-80% each participant's goals were achieved mostly focused on person premises not collective.



Participant with gifts is completing his taking part in Wiki-letnik

Reflection

The post camp team meetup



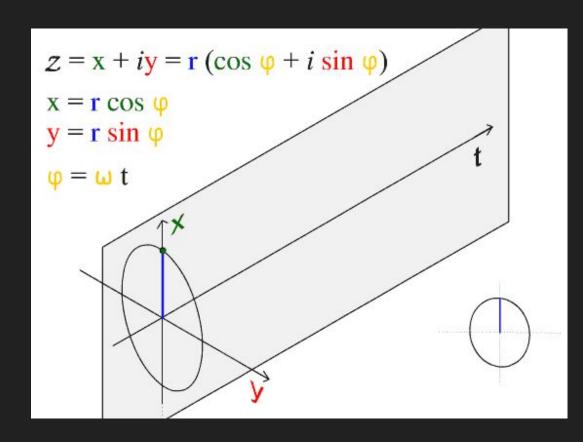
The one team member reflection

Some people overloaded, some underloaded.

But nobody did not to make a commitment for next event.

- Team was not ready to plan its loading (burnout).
- 2. Everyone tended to focus on personal achievement but not collective goals (which was in minority before as well).
- 3. Even intention to have a meeting in a month remained without one's obligations to do so.

It means that the next event needs to accumulate new team. And looks like a sine-wave development.



Postcards

Postcards with participants commitment for their project in the wiki communities were prepared by themselves and will be sent in several months.

Here is mostly individual centric goals but there were some collective such as

- engaging new participants,
- common projects with organization and participants,
- "to continue to be an admin".

Achievements

- 1. The aim established and somehow achieved.
- 2. Expanded outreach in the community about the gathering.
- 3. We fundraised for the activity.
- 4. It is a good example of self-organization,
- 5. and collect in-person collaboration experience.



Калектыўнае фота ўдзельнікаў Вікілетніка, 2017

Conclusion

1

Low level of collective: planning and decision-making.

2

There is strong altruistic trend which is not reflected by community. So it is unsustainable. I make strong difference between altruism and collective aim.

Though collaboration is being cultivated inside the mediawiki environment (wikipedia), but not in the real world.



Creation of WM User Group banner

Ideas

Regular team-building meeting with focus on discussion about self-governance issues, openness and inclusiveness.

Broad open discussion in community about the culture of sharing, commons needs and information.

To consider the wiki movement in a broader sense, beyond the narrow article writing process.

Contacts

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