

Meeting summary for SLCC-Atari Zoom Meeting 10/22/24 7pm (10/23/2024)

Quick recap

The team discussed various topics including innovative technology, personal projects, and experiences with technology and personal hobbies.

They also shared their experiences with business and technology, including a discussion about a centrifugal launcher and a new Zoom feature.

Lastly, they discussed the need for a more comprehensive and detailed approach to their project,

Next steps

- Kevin to send out meeting notification for next week's meeting on Wednesday instead of Tuesday.
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 - Michael to continue development on the UGV 2 project with the new boards arriving this week.
 - Mariano to check if his new computer has dual-channel RAM configuration for optimal performance.
 - Kevin to monitor for the opening of the new Micro Center store in West San Jose.
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Summary

Centrifugal Launcher and Zoom Features

Robert shares an article about a centrifugal launcher that can spin and launch small satellites into orbit. Kevin finds more information showing it uses a small rocket after being spun up to high speeds. They discuss the innovative technology and its potential benefits. Donald mentions a new Zoom feature that alerts users if they try to speak without unmuting first. Kevin notes he sometimes has to mute Robert due to audio feedback issues, especially when Robert's wife speaks in the background. Donald and Kevin briefly discuss their model train hobbies.

Exploring Tech and Personal Projects

The team discussed their experiences with technology and personal projects. Robert shared a picture of a sunset from Hawaii, and Mariano attempted to demonstrate a neural network he's been working on. He encountered some difficulties, but managed to run the Docker container with the Nvidia card. The team offered support and encouragement, with Michael joking about his current state of health. The conversation ended with Mariano still working on his project.

Michael's Soldering Challenges

. He mentioned that he had been working on an upcoming project involving a new version of a UGV (Unmanned Ground Vehicle) and was expecting boards for it to arrive soon. He also discussed his plans to acquire a stereo microscope for soldering and mentioned his previous experience with a magnifying lens that was more suited for jewelers. The team also discussed the challenges of soldering and the importance of having good lighting and magnification. Donald shared that he had given up soldering due to his deteriorating hand steadiness.

Cruise Ship Technology and Tracking

Robert shared his experience of being on a cruise ship in Kauai, Hawaii, aboard the Grand Princess. He mentioned the ship's advanced technology, including a medallion device that tracks passengers' locations and allows for seamless transactions on the ship. Donald and Kevin expressed interest in the technology, with Donald joking about the potential downside of always knowing someone's location. Robert also mentioned that his wife could track his location if he got lost, which Kevin found amusing. The conversation ended with Robert noting that the rest of the group was on their own cruises.

Improving Project Structure and Communication

The team discussed the need for a more comprehensive and detailed approach to their project, with a focus on the importance of understanding the customer's needs and pain points. They agreed on the necessity of a more structured and organized process, with clear roles and responsibilities assigned to each team member. The team also emphasized the importance of effective communication and collaboration to ensure the project's success. They ended the conversation with a commitment to work on these aspects and reconvene to review progress.

Al Alcorn's Atari Business Card

The meeting began with KLund1100 sharing a business card from Al Alcorn, one of the early employees of Atari, which he had found in a drawer. The card was from the time when the company was named Scissorgy before it was changed to Atari due to a lawsuit. KLund1100 also shared that Al Alcorn had designed the first game, Pong, and had hired Steve Jobs at Atari. The conversation then shifted to Steve Jobs' time at Atari, where he was known for his poor hygiene and was later assigned to the night shift. During this time, Jobs had his friend Wozniak work on a project to reduce the number of chips on the board, which resulted in a significant bonus for Jobs and a smaller amount for Wozniak.

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Atari 800 Door Issue and Pearl Harbor Visit

KLund1100 and Robert discussed a solution for a door issue in their office. KLund1100 mentioned a plastic part that fits inside the door, improving its functionality and reducing the likelihood of breakage. Robert recalled a similar issue he had experienced. They also discussed KLund1100's upcoming absence for a wedding and the subsequent rescheduling of a meeting. Additionally, Robert shared his recent visit to Pearl Harbor with his stepson and his wife, and their experience of the Uss. Missouri. The conversation ended with KLund1100's recollection of visiting the Missouri in San Francisco and the impressive size of the guns on the ship.

IBM PC Issues and Cruise Experience

KLund1100 discussed his struggles with an old IBM PC, which had a faulty BIOS chip. He was trying to burn his own ROMs but faced difficulties due to the lack of a compatible programmer. Donald, who had experience in burning ROMs, suggested getting the right burner. Robert then shared his recent experience on a cruise, describing his luxurious mini-suite and the pleasant atmosphere on board. Mariano and KLund1100 expressed their interest in the details of Robert's experience.